THE NEW GENESEER FAMER

AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.

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FARMERS' MEETING AT ROCHESTER.

To the Farmers of Monroe, and the adjoining Counties :—

A meeting of farmers and the friends of Agriculture, in Monroe, and the adjoining counties, will be held at the Court House, in the city of Rochester, on Thursday, the 28th inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of considering the present condition of agriculture and the farming interests in this section of country, and for devising means for their improvement. The good which has resulted from Agricultural Societies in other places, it is thought, affords strong reason for the belief that an association can be formed here, which will elevate and improve our agriculture—give a new impulse to the prosperity of Western New-York—and render the business of the farmer more *pleasant* as well as more *profitable*. This subject has been discussed at some length in the "New Genesee Farmer," and many have expressed a desire that an association should be formed without delay; or at least that a meeting should be held for an interchange of views respecting it.

We, therefore, whose names are hereunto attached-respectfully invite our brother farmers in this section of country, and all those who feel an interest in the cause of agriculture, to meet for this purpose at the above mentioned time and place.

THOS. WEDDLE,	JNO. W. PECKHAM,
JNO. LAKE,	DAVID DARLING,
L. B. LANGWORTHY,	RALPH THRALL,
MATTHIAS GARRET,	JOSHUA TRIPP,
E. M. PARSONS,	AMOS COLE,
H E. ROCHESTER,	RUFUS WARNER,
ISAAC MOORE,	WM. PIXLEY,
OLIVER CULVER,	DAVID BANGS,
LINDLEY M. MOORE,	B. RICHMOND,
WM. PITKIN,	HENRY FELLOWS,
WM. MCKNIGHT,	ALEXR. VOORHEES,
WM. GARBUTT,	E. H. BARNARD,
R. HARMON, JR.	IRA BELLOWS,
ELISHA HARMON,	E. H. VANDUSER,
GEO. SHEFFER,	A. GOODELL,
ASA ROWE,	G. RAMSDELL,
JAS. UPTON,	CHAS. BURR,
G. H. HOLDEN,	JOHN AYRAULT,
JOHN MOXEN,	ZERAH BURR,
H. HOSMER,	IRA MERRILL,
ALLEN T. LACY,	ERASTUS ROOT,
EPHRAIM FINCH,	JOSEPH RANDALL,
SAML. WOOD,	JAMES SMITH,
GEO. WOOD,	HENRY QUINBY,
THOS. BROWN,	C. CADY,
WM. M. WOOSTER,	LAFAYETTE COLLINS,
W. C. DWIGHT,	H. HOLDEN,
J. HOSFORD,	W. L. FIELD,
W. T. CUYLER,	JNO. L. BARTHOLF,
SAML. WEBSTER,	P. C. SHERMAN,
MARTIN SMITH,	JNO. F. PLATO,
WM. C. CORNELL,	WM. MITCHELL,
C. INGERSOLL,	R. N. SMITH,
S. WIGHT,	RUFUS ROBERTSON,
N. DRAPER,	TIMOTHY FITCH,
H. N. LANGWORTHY,	JNO. B. SKINNER,
H. M. WARD,	SAML. C. STEVENS,
A. KELSEY,	EDWD. WILBUR,
L. W. METCALF,	WM. R. SMITH,
SAML. WHITCOMB,	JOHN J. THOMAS.

*** Publishers of Newspapers in the several counties adjoining Monroe, are requested to give the above one or two insertions.

Rochester, May 1, 1840.

Gardening for May.

Many persons in this latitude do not commence planting or sowing their garden before the first of May; but it is an advantage to sow some kinds of vegetables earlier, as directed last month. Those who have not yet performed the work there specified, should do it without delay. The weather during the past month, has been very favorable for gardening, and vegetation is more forward than usual—the 1st of May. It must not be forgotten, however, that *Jack Frost* has not yet paid his farewell visit for the season, and that it is not safe to plant tender articles in the ground before the 10th or 15th of the month.

Asparagus beds, when new ones are wanted, should be made as early as can be. Deep rich warm soil is to be preferred—mix in plenty of manure, to the depth of two feet, and set the plants one foot apart. If seed is to be sown it had better be done on a small bed or border of rich earth, where the plants can easily be kept clear of weeds. Transplant when one year old.

Beans.—The early kinds may be planted early in the month, and the late kinds about the 10th or 15th. The *Lima Beans* require a warm, sandy soil, and should not be sown during wet or cold weather, as they are liable to rot.

Beets, Carrots, Parsnips, Onions, &c., may now be sown for the main crop. Those sown last month should be thinned out as soon as the plants will permit. Stir the ground frequently, and be careful to keep it clear from weeds–now is the time to kill them easily, and a few days' neglect may spoil the crop.

Broccoli, Cauliflower, and Cabbage plants, raised in hot-beds, if of sufficient size, should be transplanted into the open ground early in the month. Take them up carefully, and immediately immerse the roots in mud, to prevent their drying: this renders it unnecessary to defer the operation till a rainy day. The early York and other small cabbages, need not be set more than half the distance apart of the Drumhead and the Cauliflower. These ought to be three feet apart, and on very rich land. The *purple Cape Broccoli* is an excellent vegetable, and easily raised. The seed may be sown in the open ground; early in May, and if the soil and cultivation are good, they will head finely in autumn.

Cauliflower seed may also be sown in the open ground early this month; and if a favorable season, it will do well.

Celery, if sown early in a hot-bed, will now need to be transplanted in a nursery bed, where it can gain size and strength, and be fit for setting in trenches next month. Set the plants four inches apart and water frequently. Shade from hot sun till rooted.

Tomato, Egg Plant, and Pepper, should be removed from the hot-bed about the middle of the month. If the plants are getting large, they may be removed earlier, but must be protected during cold and frosty nights. Egg Plants and Peppers require rich land; but a light, sandy soil is best for Tomatoes—if it is rich and moist they run too much to vine, and do not bear well.

Turnips.—Sow a little of the early White Flat Dutch Turnip, as soon as may be, and if the soil is free from worms they will do well. Sow again the latter part of the month.

Radishes may be sown now, and repeatedly during spring and summer.

Lettuce should also be sown often. Transplant some of the earliest sown, in order to have fine large heads for summer.

Peas.—Sow Marrowfat, and other large kinds repeatedly, during this and next month.

Indian Corn.—Plant some of the early golden variety as soon as possible—if it escapes the frost, all is well. Plant some Tuscarora and Sweet Corn as early as danger from frost will permit; and again about the last of the month.

Melons, Cucumbers, and Squashes.—Plant early in the month, for early use, and about the 15th for the main crop. If planted on highly manured ridges or mounds, they will bear much better than in the ordinary way, especially if the ground be cold and heavy.

Flower Seeds may now be sown in the open ground. Those forwarded in hot-beds should be transplanted about the middle of the month. (For remarks on Sowing, &c., see April number.)

Watering.—Do not neglect watering in dry weather—it should be done in the evening, so that the water may sink in and not dry up.

Shading.—When plants are removed in sunny weather, it is of great advantage to place a shingle or some such thing, on the south side of the plant, to shade it from the mid-day sun. Severe winds are also injurious to tender plants.

Destroy weeds while young, or they will get the upper hand, and be apt to keep it during the summer.

Cutting Clover, &c.--By Wm. Garbutt.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In my remarks on *Grasses* and *Clover* in your 3d number, I find there is an idea conveyed which was not intended, owing to my error, or your's, or the printer's. It says that the small kind of clover "should be mown early, and it may be cut a second time in October, or it will afford good pasture in autumn. This is an advantage to those who have time to make hay before harvest." Thus it would be inferred that I usually cut the *large* kind *after* harvest, which is not the case, for it should be cut in July; and last year was the first time that I have cut it so late as August. It is my present impression, however, that it would be a good plan for us to pasture a part of our large clover pretty late in the spring, and then cut it for hay after the bustle of harvest is over.

But the idea I meant to convey is this:—When the soil is moist, or the season wet, the small kind of clover yields more pasture in autumn, or it may be cut twice in a season, which is an advantage to those who have time to cut hay in June and October. But for my part, I have no time to make hay in these months. In June my time is fully occupied in hoeing corn, &c., and breaking up land for wheat; and in October I am always very busy securing my corn and root crops, fall ploughing, &c. The time for haying is July and August, and I generally find it best to be occupied about one thing at a time, as much as possible.

Yours, &c.,

W. GARBUTT.

Wheatland, March 15th; 1840.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Selling Rohan Potatoes--By John North.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In your last paper, R. Harmon, Jr., expresses considerable surprise at the high price which I obtained for my Rohan Potatoes; and says he should be glad if I would inform him how I disposed of them to so good advantage. You will therefore please inform Mr. Harmon, that in the town of Alabama, Genesee county, which is nearly fifty miles from Rochester, there was never such a thing seen till last year, and but very few persons had ever heard of them. Some had known them sell, or had bought one or two at about 25 cents each. All were astonished at their productiveness; so that they willingly offered and gave the prices which I mentioned. It should be borne in mind also, that the Genesee Farmer is but little known in that neighborhood, and Mr. Harmon's advertisement had probably not met the eye of any there; so that they did not know at what prices the potatoes were selling here.

Those engaged for the west are going to a neighborhood where a very few were raised last year, from seed which cost an enormous price; but so satisfactory were the results, that many can be sold now in small lots, at very high prices, notwithstanding they are selling so low here.

Messrs. Editors—If all of our farmers would take an agricultural paper; they would not only learn how to buy Rohan Potatoes at the lowest price, but also how to obtain and cultivate many other things which would greatly increase their profits, and of which they will otherwise remain in ignorance. I have induced several to subscribe for the New Genesee Farmer; and when I see a man pay over his fifty cents for it, I always feel that he is doing himself greater good than he could possibly do with so small a sum in any other way. It was by reading the Genesee Farmer that I was induced to make a little outlay, which resulted in a profit more than equal to the cost of your paper during an ordinary life time.

I am, respectfully, yours, &c.

JOHN NORTH.

Rochester, March, 1840.

NOTE.—The above communications were written for last month, but omitted for want of room.—*Eds.*

For the New Genesee Farmer.

The Root Culture--The Potato.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I am not quite through with the subject on which I commenced, which was the consideration of the *Root Culture*. To show to the farmers in the clearest possible manner, how much it is for their interest to turn their attention to this system of farming, I exhibited, in my former communication, the circumstances in which they were placed, particularly in relation to the high prices of *mill feed*.—Wheat was their hobby, because it was the crop, which, more than any other, increased the amount of their funds. So much, therefore, of their land was put into wheat, that it was impossible to keep stock to much extent, without changing the system of farming. And hence arose, among the Farmers of Western New-York, the necessity of cultivating Roots; because a very few acres in Roots, properly managed, will furnish the greatest amount of the best kind of food for farm stock.

One prime article of this kind is the *Potato*; because it is easily produced, it is adapted to our soil and climate, a large amount can be produced from a small quantity of land, and because it will endure rather longer for *late* feeding in spring, and summer.

For six or eight years I have very successfully cultivated the *mercer* potato, for various reasons. 1st. Because, for the table, they are of the first quality.—2d. They fetch the highest price in market. 3d. They come very early to maturity, requiring only a short season, and at the same time they are of the first quality to use late in the season, or before new potatoes are fit for use. 4th. They can be planted thicker than any other potatoe, on account of the smallness of their tops. Each eye puts forth a shoot which comes very early to maturity, and then dies down, without putting out any side shoots like the Pinkeye, the Rohan, and most other kinds. 5th. Though they are no better flavored than the Pinkeye, yet in other respects they are superior; their tops are so much smaller that you can plant more upon an acre and produce more; they are more easily harvested, because the tubers are not scattered all over the hill like those of the Pinkeye, but they lie close together in one snug family.—6th. You can also harvest them very early, and thus have them out of the way of early frosts.

But when potatoes are extensively grown, it is best to cultivate two kinds, one kind for the *table*, and one kind for *farm stock*. Should the *Rohans* continue to maintain the extraordinary high character which they have hitherto had, I should decidedly recommend them for *stock* and the mercer for the *table*.

Soil.—So far as my experience goes, potatoes flourish on every kind of soil in this vicinity, except a *stiff clay*. As often as I have planted on a stiff clay, I have lost my labor and almost all of my seed.—Therefore, for the last two years, I have avoided planting on clay entirely. And, in case there happen to be any small patches of clay on my potato ground, I plant them with some of the Royal White Bean.

Preparation.—I select a clover sod. Early in the month of April, haul on and spread twenty loads of long manure to the acre. Plough under the manure deep and clean, laying the furrow-slice over flat. Roll it down and harrow it with the furrow. On or about the first of May, work it with the cultivator till the surface is finely pulverized and mellow. If you intend to plant mercer potatoes, mark out the rows shallow, with a one horse plough, three feet apart. But if you intend to plant the Rohan, let your rows be full three feet and a half apart.

Planting.—Cut your mercers to three or four eyes, and your rohans to only one or two. Drop your mercers one foot apart in the row, and the rohans full three and a half feet apart in the row, with only two eyes in a hill. Then cover the seed either with the plough or hoe.

After Culture.—As soon as the Potatoes come up two or three inches high, run the cultivator once or twice between the rows, and give them a dressing with the hoe, so as to stir the earth next to the shoots, destroying the young weeds, and earthing up the young plants only a trifle. Then, before the potatoes are in blossom, and before the young tubers begin to be formed in the hill, go through, twice in the row, with a one horse plough and turn the earth towards the potatoes; and then follow with the hoe, to complete the earthing up, to put the tops in the proper position, and to destroy the remainder of the weeds. After this it is very improper to be moving the soil around the hills, because, to disturb the young tubors after they are set and before they have come to maturity, is very injurious to their growth.

Harvesting.—Never commence harvesting your potatoes till they have come to full maturity, or till the frost has killed the tops down. While the tops are green, the tubers are growing and improving: therefore, unless you wish to harvest your potatoes for the purpose of making room for a wheat crop, let them remain in the ground as long as they continue to grow. In digging them, use either the plough or the potato hook. As soon as they are out of the ground, let them be picked up. Never permit them to remain out in the sun or air longer than you can possibly help.—I am well aware that this direction is at once in opposition to the rule of many farmers, which is, to allow their potatoes to remain out in the sun, *drying* as long as they can, and yet have them picked up on the same day they are dug, in order that as much of the earth as possible may cleave off from them. This is very bad management for potatoes designed for table use; because it renders them strong, or acrid in taste.

Every attentive observer has noticed, that that part of the potato which happens to be uncovered in the hill, changes its color to a dark *green*. This portion is very much injured in taste; in fact it is unfit for use, because it has imbibed, from the atmosphere, deleterious qualities. As soon as potatoes are dug and exposed to the light and air, this change begins. Every attentive observer has also noticed, that potatoes are of the best flavor and quality after they have come to maturity and while they are yet in the ground. The longer they are dug and exposed to light and air, the more of this high flavor is gone, till it is wholly lost, and they become unpalatable and unwholesome. Potatoes that remain in the earth where they grew, all winter, are in excellent condition for the table in the spring. In view, therefore, of all these facts, let us prescribe a rule in harvesting the potatoes, which will tend to *perpetuate* through the whole season, these excellent qualities. As soon then as practicable after digging, remove the potatoes designed for the table to a *dark* bin in the cellar. After depositing thus the whole crop, or as many as are designed for the table, cover them over with earth or sand, and they will retain their excellent qualities till they begin to sprout in the spring, and require to be removed. When shipped for sea, they ought to be put into casks and covered with sand.

Where potatoes are boiled for hogs, the water in which they are boiled should never be given them, but thrown entirely away, because it contains deletereous or poisonous properties.

P.

Chili, March 15, 1840.

Important Discovery.—A very important discovery in Paris is spoken of. A gentleman has succeeded in making very excellent bread from beet root, mixed with a small portion of potato flour. It is said that this bread is of very excellent quality, and can be sold to the public at so low a price as two sous per pound.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Use of Long Manure.

Much has been said in the Genesee Farmer and other agricultural journals, during the last four or five years, to show the great advantage of using manure in its fresh and unfermented state. It has often been asserted that by the process of fermentation in the heap, or lying in the yard until partially rotted, much of its strength escapes and is lost, that might be saved by depositing it in the ground in its fresh state, there to undergo the process necessary to prepare it as food for plants. This new practice seems to have obtained pretty generally, and the results have proved satifactory to those who have published them.

Being fond of new things myself sometimes, I subscribed practically, and without further inquiry to this theory, and have for several years used large quantities of coarse manure from the horse stable and yard, in its rank state, and tried it on a variety of soils and crops until I am fully satisfied it is not best for me, whatever may be the opinion or practice of others. I have, in some instances, put from 60 to 70 waggon loads upon an acre of ground, ploughed it under and covered it well, and received but very little benefit from it to the crop the first year, especially if the season proved rather a dry one. Nor could I ever trust to its mouldered remains for a crop the year following, for on ploughing it to the surface there appeared to be but very little substance remaining to benefit a second crop; but like a burnt rag the air dissolves it, and the winds blow it away, and its principle effect has been successive crops of grass and weeds, increasing my labor in hoed crops at least four fold, and entailing a more serious calamity in the multitude of cut-worms and grubs to which it gives birth.

I was taught, when young, by an experienced farmer, never to use unfermented manure, especially from the horse stable, for any kind of crop, if other could be obtained; yet it was considered better than none at all, and often valuable help to corn, potatoes, and some other coarse feeding crops. I have seen corn materially injured by using it in the hills in a dry season.

For the last four years I have dug into the same pieces of ground, large quantities of coarse rank manure, when preparing my garden for early vegetables, and have always been disappointed in not realizing the benefit I expected either to the crop or soil; and have been surprised, when working the ground, to find so little remains of the liberal dressing of the previous year, and that little, if it had been buried with the spade seven or eight inches, instead of being decomposed, was often dry and mouldy.

Experience has convinced me that half the quantity of manure that has undergone the process of fermentation in the yard or heap, or has become partially rotted while exposed to the weather, will produce the largest average crop, and whether the season be wet or dry, no disappointment will ensue on account of its use.

I am resolved never to use any more in a raw state, unless it be in the potatoe drill, considering it, as I do, a loss of at least half the value, when compared with that which has been turned over once or twice, and thoroughly fermented in the heap, and prepared for the immediate use of plants intended to be nourished by it, and the seeds of weeds entirely destroyed.

The greatest advantages I have realized from the use of short, unrotted manure, has been by spreading it on the surface of the ground when prepared for seed, and mixed with the soil, but not ploughed under. In this way it protects the crop in time of severe drought, and in a wet season benefits it more than if ploughed under and covered with more than six or eight inches of soil, with little or no action of weather upon it.—After remaining on or near the surface for one season, I think it worth more to turn under with the plough, for the benefit of future crops, than it was in its first state. The experience of every gardener must certainly be against the use of the raw material.

Too much cannot be said in favor of cooking food for hogs, and other stock; and I would as soon feed my hogs with uncooked potatoes as my plants with raw manure. I have tried both, and I think the loss in both cases about the same. A. BRYANT.

Erie co. Nursery Buffalo, 1840.

Ontario County Waking Up!

The following letter breathes the true spirit of improvement; and the proposition of the writer is indeed a liberal one. We hope his praiseworthy example will soon be followed by enough others to ensure the desired result.

Messrs. Editors—Having seen and read much in your valuable journal in relation to Agricultural Societies and Shows or Fairs, and believing them to be of vital importance to the farming community, and indeed to the people in general, I am anxious to see them becoming more common, so that their influence might be felt by our worthy farmers of the Genesee country.

It is an error with many to suppose that it required large appropriations or subscriptions to maintain an agricultural society; sufficient only being required to pay the annual premiums, and other incidental expenses, which may be limited or expanded according to the views of the society. The great object is the assembling together of the cultivators, to converse and consult on the affairs of agriculture in general, and every thing connected with it.

I have witnessed, as I dare say also many of your readers have, the good effects these societies have produced in the old country, and indeed many places in our own; and I really consider them of the greatest importance to the prosperity of the farmer, and should wish to impress upon my brother farmers in *Ontario County* in particular, the importance, nay, I might say, the necessity of forming a society of this kind without delay; and as we have many agriculturists in our county of known wealth and influence, it is to be hoped they will come forward and begin the good work. Although I am a new settler, and almost a stranger in the county, I will commence with a subscription of $50, and if nine others can be found to subscribe $100 each, I will make a tenth to complete the thousand dollars, which would place our society on a good and firm basis. I am, with many others, desirous that this society should go into speedy operation; for really this county, which is one of the most desirable counties in the State, requires it.

Without intruding more upon your time, I shall conclude by wishing you every possible success for your new and laudable undertaking, and you may rely upon my individual exertions in rendering you all the assistance I am capable of.

GEORGE HENTIG.

Geneva, April, 1840.

P. S. Would it not be desirable that where societies are now forming, and Shows or Fairs contemplated, that farmers who have good stock, or more than they wish to keep, should expose them for sale on these occasions, and persons who are replenishing or increasing their stock, will then have an opportunity of obtaining the best blood in the country?

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Improvement of Horses--A good Stallion.

I know of no subject which more demands the attention of the farmers in this section of country, than the proper selection and improvement in the breed of horses. Sufficient care is not always taken to procure good sires; and less attention still, is paid to selecting horses adapted to practical farming purposes. Horses ought to be selected with reference to strength, as well as beauty. It is no doubt apparent to the mind of every farmer of common observation, that some horses unite in their qualifications, adaptation for teaming and travelling, together with beauty of appearance.

There is a Stallion owned and kept near this place, which appears to unite these qualities, and as such, is almost a desideratum in this part of the country. It is an imported horse, and produces the best of stock. I take the liberty to send you a description of this horse, which I have procured for the purpose, in order that you may know how to speak of him to such as may make reference to you on the subject.

If some person, well acquainted with the different breeds of horses, would give us a little of his experience in this matter, he would greatly oblige many subscribers. R. N. B,

Medina, March 18th., 1840.

Remarks.—The horse referred to above, is the imported English horse "*Emigrant*," which was bro't to this country in 1832, by the late John Walkington. He is called of the Cleveland Bay breed, and is said to be of a beautiful form and color, and to possess many desirable requisites. We hope all of our readers in that vicinity who have horses, will call and see for themselves, at the stable of C. Ashton, one mile west of Medina, Orleans co.—*Eds. New Gen. Farmer.*

Improved Stock in Henrietta.

It may be an advantage to our readers in the town of Henrietta and its vicinity, to be informed that Wm. C. Cornell has an imporved Short Horn Bull (Young Capson,) which is from the best imported stock of the late Stephen Van Rensselaer, of Albany, and is a very superior animal. His pedigree is good, and his stock is said to be unsurpassed by any in this country.—Farmers should not neglect such opportunities for improving their breeds of cattle.

Wm. C. Cornell's farm is about half a mile south east of West Henrietta—one mile west and two south of Henrietta Corners—and two miles and a half north-west of Rush; on the middle road leading to Rochester. For particulars, see handbills.

☞ We also invite the attention of our stock-raising readers, to the advertisement of Mr. Weddle, on our last page.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

To Prevent Smut in Wheat.

Messrs. Editors—As many farmers are slow to believe in the efficiency of brine and lime in preventing smut in wheat, I am induced to give additional testimony in its confirmation.

As our winter wheat is rarely smutty to any extent, we have never prepared that seed by brining and liming. But our Spring wheat having formerly been more or less smutty, we now prepare our seed in the following manner: After putting our seed into water, to separate the light kernels and oats, if there should be any amongst it, we put it into a tub, and pour strong brine, about blood warm, on to it till it is completely covered. After it has steeped three or four hours, we take it out in baskets, in which we let it stand until it is sufficiently drained; then we spread it on a barn floor, and rake in fresh slacked lime until the wheat becomes dry, when it is fit for sowing.

The past two seasons, we have prepared our seed wheat in this way, and not a kernel of smut has been found in the crops raised from it; while our neighbors who neglect this preparation, are generally troubled with smut.

We sow our spring wheat about the first of May.

Cassander.

Hume, March 14, 1840.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

To prevent Bad Taste in Milk, Butter & Beef.

Having observed that one of your correspondents wishes to know if there is any method of feeding ruta baga to milch cows, without having the milk and butter taste of the turnip, I am happy to say, I can give you an answer, which I think, upon trial, will prove satisfactory. Never allow the cow to taste of the roots within 6 or 8 hours of milking; but feed her immediately *after* each milking, and do not give her any more of the roots at a time than she will eat in 2 or 3 hours; and be careful that she does not get any more till after she is milked again. By this method cows may be fed on ruta baga or other turnips, and and no person will be able to discover the taste in the milk or butter.

Upon the same principle, those who wish to feed fatting cattle upon turnips, may do so without any danger of affecting the taste of the beef, provided they will omit feeding this kind of food, two or three days previous to killing. I have heard of cases where the beef was rendered unfit to eat, on account of the animal's eating a few turnip tops or cabbage leaves just before being slaughtered. The difficulty may be obviated, as mentioned above. Your friend,

JONATHAN DENNIS.

Portsmouth, Newport Co., R. I., March, 1840.

To prevent the Taste of Turnips in Butter.

Messrs. EDITORS—One of your correspondents wants to know how to prevent the taste of turnips in the butter from cows fed on these roots; and having had some experience in the matter, I will give you an answer to the inquiry. If it meets your approbation, I may hereafter give your readers some further observations relating to the dairy. In some of the best districts in England, the taste of the cream and butter is affected by the manure used on the pastures, and the following means are adopted to prevent it.—

The first method is almost universally practised on the milk and cream brought into the London Market, in order to prevent the taste being affected by the different kinds of food on which their cows are fed.

1*st Method*—Dissolve an ounce of nitre (Salt Petre) in a pint of pure water, and put a quarter of the pint into every fifteen gallons of milk as brought from the cows. This will effectually prevent any bad flavor, and cause the milk and cream to keep sweet a longer time. The quantity of nitre is so very small, that it does not at all affect the wholesomeness of the milk.

2*d Method*—Let the cream get well sour; and before churning, take out a quarter of a pint of the cream and put it into a well scalded pot or jar, into which gather the next cream, and stir it well; do the same with each successive gathering, until enough is saved, and well soured, ready for a second churning; then take out a small quantity and commence anew as before.

The cream being sour before churning, is no detriment to it, and this method will prevent any bad taste in the butter. Yours, &c.,

Rochester, March, 1840. W. R.

The taste of Turnips in Milk.

A correspondent in your 2d number asks information for preventing the flavor of butter being affected by the turnips upon which the cows are fed. I have had occasion to feed the Ruta Baga in large quantities to my milch cows, and have seen several remedies for the turnip flavor, some confidently recommended, but none have proved effectual. I have found however, that very *thoroughly working* the butter, and salting it as much as a regard to its taste will admit, is by far the best remedy. In most cases, it has nearly, if not entirely, removed the unpleasant flavor, even when the cows have been fed upwards of half a bushel per day. I suppose from this, that the turnip flavor is chiefly in the buttermilk and not in the pure butter itself; and that as the buttermilk is removed from the butter by successive workings, this flavor gradually diminishes, until, as the process is perfected, it entirely disappears.

Persons of reputed acuteness of taste in this respect, whom I have supplied with butter from turnip-fed cows, and which was thoroughly treated according to the preceding mode, have pronounced it of first-rate excellence, and have been unable to detect the peculiar flavor of the turnips. T. J.

Seed Corn.

Every farmer should be very particular to select the most perfect corn for his seed, for the more perfect the seed the more vigorous will be the plant. Seed corn should be selected in the fall, before the crop is cut up. By walking between the rows, the earliest and most perfect ears are easily seen, and in a very short time a supply can be gathered. A few of the husks are to be left on each ear, then braided together, and hung up in a dry and safe place. When planting time arrives, the seed is ready and the time and trouble saved of overhauling some forty or fifty bushels in the crib, to make a selection.

The earliest varieties are undoubtedly in the main, the most profitable. The yellow and white Canada, perhaps, would generally be considered too small. If, however, the soil is rich and it is planted one way much nearer than the large common corn, a medium crop can be obtained.

The Dutton corn is considered to be an excellent kind by most who have cultivated it. It was obtained by Judge Buel, in Vermont, of a gentleman whose name it now bears. It is yellow, twelve rowed, and earlier than the common twelve rowed varieties.

The eight rowed yellow is an early kind, quite productive, and is now pretty generally raised in our section of country. The true name is not known to the writer. The kernel is large, broad, and of a pale, yellow color.

Preparing the Ground.—If the soil is not naturally rich, it should be made so, by a good dressing of manure. Much depends on the richness of the ground. Good seed, and the best of attention, will not secure a good crop, if the soil is *worn out, or poor*. A farmer had far better plant but half, or one-third the number of acres, if, by so doing, he can thoroughly manure his corn ground. He will save much labor, and have more and better corn.

The ground should be ploughed no earlier than is necessary, to be in readiness for planting, and then the work ought to be *well* done. The furrows cut narrow, in order more finely to pulverize the earth. If the ground is naturally low and wet, it should be drained; if not, ploughed in narrow lands, not to exceed one rod in width: then thoroughly harrowed and marked out one way. Great care should be taken in planting, to cover the corn with fine earth. Corn, well planted, will be ready for the Cultivator, one week earlier than that carelessly planted, or covered with stones, lumps, or coarse, dry earth. If the soil is clayey, avoid, if possible, planting in wet weather. The practice of planting when you have to cover the corn with mortar, is a very bad one. When the weather becomes dry, the soil bakes, and it is almost impossible for the young plants to force through its crust. As soon as the rows are readily seen, the cultivator should be started, the weeds and grass destroyed, and the earth lightly stirred around the hills. If hoed but twice, and on old or stubble ground, the plough should be used the last hoeing, passing the right way the last time, to drain off the water after heavy rains.

JOHN B. BOWEN.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Will you, or some of your correspondents give a description of the Italian Spring Wheat? Whether it is, or is not bearded, and the color of its berry? I purchased some for seed this spring, *said* to be the Italian. The berry is red, whether bearded or not, I do not know, I have noticed since, in the old Gen. Far., and also been informed by some of my neighbors, that the Italian Spring Wheat is not bearded, and the berry is white, resembling the White Flint. J. B. B.

Ledyard, April 20, 1840.

Remarks.—The *Italian* Spring Wheat is heavily *bearded*. The berry is rather dark colored, and appears somewhat transparent. The common *Siberian* is very similar to the Italian, but does not grow so strong or produce as well, and the flour is said not to be as good. The variety called *Bald Siberian*, differs from all other kinds of spring wheat with which we are acquainted, in its being almost entirely destitute of beard. The berry is rather lighter colored than either of the preceding, and is said to make very good flour; but it bears no resemblance to the flint wheat, and if there is any kind of real Spring wheat answering the description given by friend Bowen, we should consider it "something new under the sun."—*Eds.*

Disease in Cattle.

MESSRS. EDITORS—A neighbor's ox was taken sick when in good flesh and died. The symptoms were, a want of appetite, constipation, and a cautious movement of the head. His horns, at first cold, were afterwards warm; his eyes were shrunken and dim, and he gave strong manifestations of severe pain in the head. During the whole course of his sickness he eat but two ears of corn and three or four potatoes, and drank but little water. Several gentlemen pronounced the disease to be the "Hollow Horn." Turpentine was put upon his head, his tail split, physic given him, and his horns bored. When the horn was penetrated, there issued a thin liquid, nearly the color of water and mixed with blood. The physic did not operate, and all that was done, seemed not to alleviate his sufferings. The ninth or tenth day of his illness he suddenly expired. It may not be improper to state, that he had been able to lie down and rise at pleasure, until within a few hours of his death. Upon a post mortem examination, it was found that a portion of the pith of both horns, was in a fluid state, and other portions softened, and of a yellowish color. Between the two plates of the skull was a fluid, resembling that found in the horns, and also matter, analagous to pus. Between the dura mater and arachnoid membranes, was a quantity of water, and also in the ventricles of the brain. The membranes on the posterior lobes of the brain, were highly injected with blood, and somewhat thickened. His tongue was considerably swollen towards the base, but no lesions of any kind were discovered. The lungs crepitated throughout their greater part, but the lower lobes were so gorged with blood as to be impermeable. In a word, there had been inflammation of those lobes. On the pericardium was found quite a quantity of fatty growths, quite unnatural to it. The whole circumference of the heart in its largest diameter, presented a knobbed apppearance, and when these were cut, they presented a mixture of fatty matter, and red, partially organized substance. The whole heart was in a state of hypertrophy. and its auricles, ventricles, and all the vessels leading from it, were distended with firmly congulated blood. The intestines were not examined for want of time.

Now the question arises, what was the disease? and where its original seat? I am not familiar with the diseases of brutes, but from the symptoms while living, and the post mortem appearances, I do not hesitate to state my belief, that its original location was in the membranes of the brain, and by a rapid extension

of the inflammation, disorganization of the pith of the horns was the consequence. The peculiar look of his eye, constipation, the motions of his head, and examination; all go to prove conclusively to my mind, that the disease was highly inflamatory, and located in the membranes of the brain. His lungs and trunk were affected sympathetically, and the disease of his heart had undoubtedly been of long standing. As I am not acquainted with the disease called "Hollow Horn," I know not whether this was the disease; but if it was, the treatment generally pursued will prove unavailing. It is a notorious fact, that for high grades of inflammation, no mild means will reduce the circulation to its proper standard, and that what is done, should be done quickly, and with a bold hand. For this disease, I would recommend in the first stages copious depletion, the amount of blood taken to depend upon the size and condition of the animal; and for an ox, one gallon would be little enough. If the bleeding did not make a sensible alteration for the better, during the first ten hours, it should be repeated, though not so much as at first. In conjunction with the bleeding, a smart dose of cathartic medicine should be administered, and cold water poured from a height upon the head, once in two hours, during the first days of treatment. Boring the horns in this disease can be of little use, as the matter between the tables of the skull will not be evacuated by the means; and turpentine on the head will only increase the inflammation. Providing the original seat of disease is between the tables of the skull and in the horn, boring them would probably afford some relief; but when the brain, or its membranes, are the seat, this measure will prove futile. Whether this disease is of frequent occurrence, I know not; but oxen are valuable property, which was an inducement for me to examine the animal, and pen this article, in hopes it might prove useful to some of your numerous readers.

R. R. S.

Scipio, April 21st, 1840.

Pumps for Wells.

Messrs. Editors—Water, being one of the most important elements which enter into the composition of the animal and vegetable kingdom, and being indispensible to our subsistence, the great Creator has caused it to circulate freely everywhere through his world which we inhabit. I would, therefore, inquire what are the means generally employed for drawing it from the world's reservoirs?

This question might be answered by a person of but very limited observation; for you may travel from Maine to Georgia, and, I venture to say, you will not see, on an average, one pump to five hundred wells. But you will see crotched trees and well poles, wooden cranks and gudgeons, chains and buckets, all of which will answer the purpose, if something better cannot be obtained. I have myself labored many a year with the above-named well tackling, and but recently found an *easy* and *rapid* method of obtaining water from my well, which is by means of a *Pump*.

Permit me, through the columns of your journal, to recommend to my farming bretheren, an immediate renunciation of well poles, cranks and buckets, and the adoption of the pump. I am confident that one year's use of it would more than compensate them for any extra expense.

I am now using "*Minor's Improved Patent Pump*," made in Rochester, by W. A. Langworthy & Co., and it lifts water with such great facility, that it is mere pleasure to work it, and were it not for appearing boyish, I am not sure but I should throw out every day seven times as much water as is necessary. In short, it is the most perfect and durable article of the kind that I have ever seen. CORRESPONDENT.

Irondequoit, March 26, 1840.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Preserving Fence Posts, Wooden Pavements, &c

Messrs. Editors—Observation has taught me that leached ashes are an excellent preservative of timber. I have noticed that the staves of old leach tubs used 20 years since, and left standing partly in the ground, exposed to the full effects of air and water, are preserved in perfect soundness by reason of the lye with which they are saturated and the ashes which surround them. An oak well crotch, on the premises of S. Gillet, in Avon, had, in 1838, stood 36 years, and was still hard and sound, having been preserved from decay by a quantity of leached ashes being thrown around it, from a leach that stood near. I have tried the experiment on my own fence posts for 15 years, and those which were surrounded with ashes would be perfectly sound, while others which had no ashes applied would be entirely decayed.

I now set my fence posts 2½ to 3 feet deep, put two quarts of good house ashes at the bottom, then fill up the hole with small stones and earth to within four inches of the surface, packing it down firmly with a driver; then fill up around the post with ashes, a little higher than the surface of the ground. This will take less than half a bushel of ashes to a post, at an expense of three or four cents each, and will render the post at least doubly durable. By renewing the ashes at the surface, once in two or three years, either from the house or the ashery, I have no doubt that the Oak, Red Beech, and other kinds of timber, would last as long as Red Cedar. I have 100 rods of board fence, built in the spring of 1839. The posts are Oak, except a few Chestnut and the Red Cedar mixed in. I set them according to the above plan, and shall therefore give the subject a fair trial. Yours, &c.,

HALL COLBY.

Greece, one mile west of Rowe's Nursery.

Sunflower Seed--Inquiry.

A friend in Niagara county asks for information respecting the value and use of Sunflower Seed, for making oil or for other purposes. Also, the best manner of cultivating, and the amount of produce per acre.

The following article, from the *Madisonian*, is the latest information we have seen on this subject:

The Helianthus, or Sun-Flower Plant.

We presume it is not generally known that this plant, which is so often regarded as worse than a useless cumberer of the ground, is cultivated extensively in some parts of the United States, and turned to a very valuable account in a variety of ways. We have before us a letter from a firm in the interior of Pennsylvania, which gives us some interesting facts, which we think worthy of publicity.

The *oil* derived from the sunflower *seed* is pretty well known. Its excellence for fancy painting and druggist use, is said to be confirmed, and we are even told that it is equal, if not superior, to almond or olive oil for table use. One acre of ground will produce from forty to fifty bushels of seed, sometimes much more. Good seed will produce a gallon of oil to the bushel, and the oil has been sold at $1,50 per gallon, when flaxseed oil stood at ninety cents.

The refuse, after the oil is expressed, is said to be a valuable food for cattle.

The leaf is manufactured into segars, of a mild, pleasant flavor, possessing, it is said, powerful pectoral properties, highly commended by physicians in many diseases of the chest. The leaves, properly cured, will bring from five to fifteen cents per pound.

The stalk, when stripped of the leaf and seed, may be burnt, and a superior alkali made from the ashes.

The comb of the seed, or properly the filaments of the flower is excellent feed for cattle or hogs.

The Helianthus is cultivated in the vicinity of York, Pa., and a gentleman in North Carolina, in 1839, cultivated one hundred acres.

Edging for Borders.

M. A. W., of Athens, in Georgia, has given us in a late number of the Magazine of Horticulture, an interesting article on edging for flower beds. After enumerating various plants for this purpose, and rejecting them along with the box, because the evergreen, as he alleges, soon takes up too much room, harbors slugs and other noxious vermin, exhausts the soil by its fibrous roots, and is apt to be winter-killed at the north, and summer-killed at the south.—he proposes a new plan:—

"I planted in the same line, and so close as almost to touch each other, one bulb of each, repeatedly, three kinds of Amaryllidea of nearly the same habit, and which multiply by offsets so fast, that they can be easily obtained in sufficient quantity, viz: Zephyranthes* Atamasco, *Z. rosea*, and Stenbergia† lutea.—Early the next spring, my row of Atomasca flowers, of the most brilliant white, changing to pink, was the admiration of every passer-by. They continued to push forth for several weeks, and for a considerable time after, their leaves formed as fine a margin of green as one would wish to see. These leaves had scarcely begun to die away, when the flowers of *Z. rosea* began to appear, and kept flowering nearly all summer. The leaves lasted till late in the fall, when the Crocus-like golden flowers of the Sternbergia took their place, and had a doubly cheerful effect from all the adjacent vegetation having "fallen into the sere and yellow leaf."

We can easily conceive the beauty of such edging; but find in this district insuperable obstacles at the outset. Sternbergia, lutea, though hardy with us, and remarkable for the rich glossy green of its leaves, increase very slowly in the limestone soil of the Genesee country; and Zephyranthes atamasco fares still worse: we have not had it to bloom more than once before it has declined, and eventually perished. *Z. rosea* we have not tried, but it appears not to withstand the severest winters even in Engalnd.

With all due deference, however, we must think that Box is the best plant for edging in this climate, whatever may be the case in Georgia. It is neither damaged by the cold of winter nor the heat of summer; and we know not that any noxious vermin have found a harbor amongst its leaves. Neither ought it to exhaust the soil by its fibrous roots: a spade passed down near it on the inside of the border, would limit their extent in that direction; but Box for edging should be kept in a dwarf state, not exceeding three or four inches in height, and trimmed to a straight edge like the roof of a building. In this condition it is not found to be troublesome. We have nothing so permanent that is so easily increased—nothing that has leaves of so fine a green through all the vicissitudes of the year. X.

* Amaryllis lutea. † Amaryllis atamasco.

New Varieties of the Plum.

From a late number of *Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture*, we learn that Henry Corse, Esq., of Montreal, has made the production of seedling plums a study for some years, having raised thousands of seedling trees, with the hope of obtaining something that should excell every existing variety.—To three or four of these he has appended names.—It appears that his *Nota Bena* is known as a superior plum in some of the collections near Boston; but his *Dictator* is one of the largest and finest plums ever produced—exceeding in size the Magnum Bonum, or Bolmer's Washington, and equalling the Green Gage in flavor. It is a brownish purple, covered with a beautiful bloom—juicy, rich, and high flavored.

We also learn from the same valuable work, that the *Reine Claude Violette*—already introduced into one or more collections at Salem,—is one of the *few purple plums* of which the flavor will bear comparison with that of the Green Gage. Another new variety—the *Royal Hytive*—also purple, with an exceedingly rich flavor, larger than the Reine Claude Violette, and ripening a fortnight or three weeks before it,—is in possession of the London Horticultural Society. We believe both these varieties are of French origin. †

Expense of Improvement.

We have receiveived for publication, a communication signed "Old Farmer;" but as it is written in a style which we should be sorry ever to see introduced into our columns, we shall make only a brief abstract, and reply to the objections of the writer. He complains chiefly of the practice of charging for the introduction of improvements in agriculture—objects to the high price of Rohan Potatoes, and of Durham, and other improved cattle—and seems to consider it extortion for the owner of a fine bull, to ask five, ten, or twenty dollars for his use. Many of his remarks are perfectly just; but he has condemned, indiscriminately, the innocent and the guilty. His attack is not so much upon impositions—humbugs—as upon the introduction of really valuable improvements.

We believe that if "Old Farmer" will candidly examine the subject, he will find that the charges of "selfishness," "avarice," and a disposition to "strut and gobble," which he so freely bestows upon all advocates of improvement, are far from being just. We think "the laborer is worthy of his hire;" and that when an enterprising individual has, at great expense, made or introduced an improvement, he deserves, at least, *some* compensation. We know, as a general rule, he never gets a full one. Charles Collings spent a life in the improvement of the breed of cattle—he surely had a right to ask something for his labor. Others have spent thousands of dollars in the importation of that breed to this country—with what face of liberality or honor can "Old Farmer" ask such men to *give* him the cost of their fortunes? He reminds us of a parsimonious traveller who complained that the inn-keeper charged more for a peck of oats than they cost him—not remembering that the inn-keeper had house-rent, stable-rent, and ostler, to pay, besides making a living for himself and family. A young man purchased a bushel of Rohan Potatoes, for four dollars, and as long as his neighbors thought he had paid dearly for his whistle, they were willing to ridicule him for his "book farming;" but as soon as they found that this variety possessed extraordinary productiveness, they *magnanimously* came forward and asked him to *give* them some to try. "Old Farmer" should not ask improvers to *give* him the result of their labors, without reasonable compensation, until he has *given* away the result of his labors,—his crops of corn, wheat, and oats, and his cattle. But even admitting that money has been actually made in some cases by the introduction of new and valuable improvements; a man who risks much, and often loses much, is certainly entitled occasionally to some profit. Is a man never to *make* any thing? Must he always sell every thing *at cost?* Would "Old Farmer" be willing to do this? If the *actual cost* of his crop of corn is only twenty cents per bushel, would he be willing to *sell* it at twenty cents per bushel? If his wheat crop of forty bushels the acre, has cost him only *ten dollars* an acre, is he willing to *sell* his wheat at *twenty-five cents* per bushel? Until he has done so, we hope he will retract his charges.

Encouraging Improvements!

I am surprised, sir, to see the great lack of that true spirit of improvement amongst my neighboring farmers. They call me the Book Farmer, because I encourage the American Farmer, the Cultivator and the Register; and yet I find they are, (many of them) pleased to borrow occasionally, which gives me an opportunity of *rubbing them* now and then. If I succeed in my experiments, they say nothing; but if I do not, then they say, "I told you so."

I purchased a Rohan potatoe last Spring, and tried to keep it a secret from them, through fear of ridicule; but it leaked out, and I had not only to show it, but tell the price—I paid a dollar for it. "A dollar," they exclaimed, and I believe one of them would have called me a fool, if he dared, for he got quite in a rage about it, wondering that I could allow myself to be so imposed upon. Well, sir, the potatoe was cut into sixteen pieces, and I gathered from these sixteen hills, two bushel baskets full—but when I told my friend of it, and assured him by my witness, he made no further remark than "*I must ask you for two or three to try!!!*" Spirit of Buel! what feelings for an American Agriculturist! Respectfully,

American Farmer.] A YOUNG BOOK FARMER.

United States Census of Agriculture.

It is known to most of our readers that this is is the year for taking a new census of the United States.—We have been favored with a copy of the instructions given to the marshals and their assistants, by which it appears that the reports are to embrace a vast amount of highly important information, which has not heretofore been obtained. We are particularly pleased to find that the statistics of our agriculture are to occupy a prominent place in the census. We annex a list of interrogations which are to be proposed to every farmer, and we hope all will be prepared to answer them correctly. Had this been done every ten years, what a vast fund of interesting and highly important information the successive reports would contain!

The marshals and their assistants will commence their operations in June next, and proceed through their respective districts as fast as due regard to correctness will allow.

The interrogations respecting the number of inhabitants, and cattle, horses, &c., are to be answered with reference to the 1st. of June, 1840; but those relating to crops, value of produce, &c., are for the past season, 1839.

Interrogations—Agriculture.

What is the number of your horses and mules?
How many neat cattle have you?
How many sheep?
How many swine?
What is the estimated value of your poultry of all kinds?
How many bushels of wheat did you grow in 1839?
How many bushels of barley?
How many bushels of oats?
How many bushels of rye?
How many bushels of buckwheat?
How many bushels of Indian corn?
How many pounds of wool?
How many pounds of hops?
How many pounds of wax?
How many bushels of potatoes?
How many tons of hay?
How many tons of hemp and flax?
How many pounds of tobacco?
How many pounds of rice?
How many pounds of cotton have you gathered?
How many pounds of silk cocoons?
How many pounds of sugar?
How many cords of wood have you sold?
What is the value of the products of your dairy?
What is the value of the products of your orchard?
How many gallons of wine have you made?
What is the value of your home-made, or family goods?

Horticulture.

What was the value of the produce of your market garden in 1839?
What was the value of the produce of your nursery and green-house?
How many men were employed by you?
What is the amount of your capital invested?

Best Varieties of Corn.

We believe that a very common error in the culture of corn, is the selection of too large and late varieties. The result is a large growth of stalk and cob, at the expense of the grain. Farmers cannot bring themselves to think that a field of small, insignificant looking corn, can produce like one of large and broad-leaves, and luxuriant appearance. The largest crops, however, which have been cultivated in this country, have been raised in the northern states, with the smaller varieties.

At a late agricultural meeting at Boston, E. H. Derby, Esq., of Boston, gave a statement of his farming in New Hampshire, and more particularly of his culture of corn. He had six acres; the product of which was 400 bushels. Of this one acre yielded 131 bushels. The variety he plants is the Golden Sioux. This, it is well known, is one of the very earliest and smallest varieties, being more so than the early Canada. It was planted in hills of three stalks each, at a distance of two feet, by two feet eight inches. Larger varieties planted so thickly, would be destitute of ears; but with this, the small size of the stock admits of a greater number. We have cultivated it successfully in drills two feet apart, and six inches asunder in the drills.

A very important advantage from the culture of the smaller varieties, is their early maturity, and consequent escape from early frost. This quality is also of very great consequence, when it is intended to follow the corn by a crop of wheat.

Scotch Oats.

Mr. E. HARMON, of Wheatland, has left at the Rochester Seed Store a few bushels of a variety of Scotch Potatoe Oats, which are the heaviest we have ever seen raised in this country. They weigh 44 pounds the bushel. Mr. H. has raised this kind for three years past, and thinks very highly of them.—The seed was first brought from Scotland, and from less than half a bushel sown, he obtained 33 bushels. He has grown them in connection with common oats, and gives the Scotch a decided preference. They yield with him from 60 to 70 bushels per acre, which is more, by measure, than the common sorts produce; besides which there is the great difference in weight. The straw is tall and strong, they are not more liable to lodge than other sorts, and if cut at a proper time, before over ripe, they are not apt to shell off in harvesting. They ripen rather earlier than common oats, and should be cut as soon as fairly ripe.

Chevalier Barley.

This variety of Barley is now the most generally approved in the best districts of England and Scotland. It is much superior to the common kinds, both in quality and productiveness, and sells for a higher price in market. The following account of its origin, is taken from a book entitled, "the present state of Agriculture in England."

"An extraordinary fine ear of barley was observed and selected by a laborer of mine, in the parish of Debenham, in 1819; in the spring of 1820, I planted 27 grains in my garden; in 1825 I planted half an acre of this species, and half an acre of the common species, the land under precisely similar cultivation.—The product of the first amounted to eight and a half coombs; and of the last to six and a half coombs; (34 and 26 bushels.) The ears of the first averaged 34 grains, the second 30; the grains of the first heavier as four to five. In the course of 5 or 6 years, it was generally accepted and approved in my neighborhood, and I promoted its fair trial, charging only the current market price for it."

A good supply is for sale at the seed store.

Annat Barley.

This is a newer variety, an improvement on the foregoing, and we believe has not heretofore been introduced into this country. The following account is taken from Lawson's Catalogue of the Agricultural Museum at Edinburgh, where the writer obtained some of the seed.

"This new and very superior barley is the produce of two ears picked in a field on the farm of Flawcraig Carse of Gowrie, in 1830, since which period it has been grown by Mr. A. Gorrie, at Annat Garden (hence its name). Last year it was sown on a ridge in the middle of a field, with Common Barley on the one side and Chevalier on the other. In bulk of straw it seems to have the advantage of both these kinds. It was five days ripe before the former, and about a fortnight before the latter. It was about 2½ lb. per bushel heavier than the Chevalier," &c. (See *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, March* 1835.) The grain is even more round and plump than that of the Chevalier, of a bright yellow transparent color.

Sample in grain and straw by Mr. A. Gorrie, weight

per bushel, 57 lb., grown beside the samples of Chevalier mentioned above as weighing 54½ lb.

As only a small quantity of the seed was procured, it will be distributed for experiments. (Agents and Correspondents of the "New Genesee Farmer" can obtain rare seeds, *gratis*, on application at the Rochester Seed Store.)

Tares or Vetches.

We should be glad if some of our readers would favor us with the results of their experience in the culture and use of *Tares* in this country. They are much used in England, and highly esteemed; and we believe some English farmers are in the habit of growing them in this country and in Canada. Still they are but very little known as yet, and we believe deserve a more general trial. We extract the following remarks from "*Low's Elements of Practical Agriculture:*"

"The Tare, *Vicia sativa*, is one of the most esteemed of the leguminous forage-plants of this country.—It is an annual plant, indigenous, and hardy. There are several varieties of it, one of which is distinguished by producing yellow seeds.

"Tares, when used as green forage, are cut after the pods are formed, but long before the seeds become ripe. Tares, therefore, being in the class of crops not allowed to mature their seeds, are not exhausting to the soil. On the contrary; in relation to the farm, they are to be considered as restorative crops, from the quantity of manure which the consumption of them affords. They are exceedingly nutricious, and supply a larger quantity of food, for a limited time, than almost any other forage-crop.

"All the animals of the farm are fond of this legume, and all thrive upon it in an eminent degree.—Hogs may be fattened entirely upon it. It is suited to milch-cows, causing them to give more butter than any other species of food, and it is employed extensively in the feeding of horses. All the English agriculturists are impressed with a high opinion of the value of tares. They are not only casually employed, as in Scotland, to fill up the intervals between the cuttings of clovers, but they are often the principal source of feeding from the month of May to November."

The Borer in Quince Trees, &c.

The Borer is very destructive to the Quince tree, be Mountain Ash, and not unfrequently injures young apple trees. We are not certain that it is the same worm that infests the Locust tree.

Its presence may be easily determined by examing the tree near the ground, when its filth, somewhat resembling saw-dust, will be visible. Remove these obstructions, and its hole, cut through the solid wood, may be discovered. We have drawn them forth by means of a barbed wire, in considerable numbers.—We believe this plan, though original with us, was first practised near Boston; but it is rather an irksome operation, and in consequence we have devised a plan to supersede it. So far it has answered well. Apply a coat of tar to the bark from the surface of the ground to the height of two or three feet. It is most readily, evenly, and thoroughly done, by dipping in the hand. A newspaper is then rolled round the tree, so as to cover up the tar, and tied with a thread in several places. We have found it to protect the tree for one year, when the application should be repeated.

Now is the time to perform the operation, as the insect in its *perfect* state, will soon be abroad to puncture the bark and deposit its eggs. No time should be lost. †

For the New New Genesee Farmer.

Slugs on Fruit Trees.

Messrs. Editors—In strolling a few days since through the pleasure grounds of my friend T., of this place, my attention was directed to a number of once beautiful and thrifty cherry trees, which had been completely destroyed by the operation of a small worm, or slug, of a dark, slimy appearance, on the leaves of the tree in summer.

Mr. T. informs me that they made their first appearance in July, 1838, and that their operation was confined wholly to the leaves where they were first discovered. After remaining on the tree about four or five weeks, they suddenly disappeared. The trees soon exhibited every appearance of decay; but, inasmuch as they seemed to prey on the leaves alone, it excited no fears for the vitality of the tree. He had the pain and mortification, however, of seeing them return last summer, apparently with renewed vigor, and an increase of strength, when they soon completed their work of destruction.

A few thoughts on this subject, by myself, were published in the Gen. Far. in August last, when the "little monster" was imperfectly described, and a brief account of his ravages on the trees in this vicinity. I offer them again for insertion, almost verbatim, in hopes that they may lead to the discovery of some preventive, or remedy for the evil.

About three weeks since (July 1st.) I discovered them on my trees of the same kind. After a few unsuccessful experiments to destroy a few of them (taken from the tree) I came, reluctantly, to the conclusion, that there was no remedy, and that I must lose my trees. You can hardly imagine my surprise when, about ten days after I first discovered them, nearly, or quite all of them, had disappeared. I have just dropped my pen to examine them again, (August 1st.,) but, after diligent search, I cannot find one remaining. The leaves are much eaten, and I believe the trees are materially injured.

The query in my mind is, what should have caused their sudden disappearance, as no means of any kind were used to remove them from the leaves, or trees?

Messrs, Editors, I should still like to know something of their origin, as well as what means would effectually destroy them, without injuring the trees.—If you, or your valuable correspondent, D. T. or any other person, can give the desired information through the medium of the Farmer, they would save the lives of many fine trees, and confer a favor on the public, especially on ALPHA.

Ludlowville, March, 1840.

I was much pleased with the remarks of your fair correspondent, "Annette," in your last number, and agree with her that your paper should, and does, exert a mighty influence over the *whole farming community*. I hope she will not soon lay down her pen. I met with your paper accidentally, and adopt her language, when I say I found it to "contain so much interesting and instructive matter," that I was induced at once to subscribe.

Remarks.—We know nothing of the history of this *slug*, except that its ravages on the leaves of the cherry tree, have been observed for several years in many parts of the country; and that in a brief editorial notice in the Gen. Farmer of July 1835, it was said they infested the leaves of *several kinds of fruit trees*, in the vicinity of Rochester. We think it evident that this slug is in its *larva* state, and that the *perfect* insect has wings,—from the circumstance that it has suddenly appeared at the distance of several miles from any of its former localities. Last season we observed it in our nursery for the first time: but could discover nothing of it on the cherry trees in our fruit garden, eighty rods to the westward.

From the editorial notice mentioned above, we learn that "it is only necessary to dust them in the morning while the dew is on, with *lime*, or *ashes*, which may be easily done by throwing a few handfuls of either into the tree. Another effectual method is to sprinkle them with a decoction of *tobacco*."

Two days after that number of the Gen. Farmer was printed, our friend L. A. S., of Lockport, wrote a very interesting article on this subject, which appeared a fortnight after in the same paper. He says, "I applied *soap suds*—a strong wash of *lime water*—but without the least apparent effect. I heard it suggested that as the slugs wore a slimy coat, a *dry application* would be better than a *wet one*. Accordingly I threw over the trees with a shingle, a quantity of *dry unleached ashes*, while the dew was on the leaves, and every one coated with the ashes was destroyed. My trees now appear nearly free from them—the leaves green, and I am highly gratified with the experiment. It is now three weeks since I commenced operations, and I am satisfied that this remedy is complete. It should be repeated on the trees attacked, *twice a week* for *three or four weeks*, and cannot fail of being effectual. I also applied *slacked lime* to some of the trees, but the ashes are sufficient, and within the reach of every one."

In regard to the cause of their sudden disappearance, mentioned by "Alpha," we can only speak conjecturally. Many insects have insect-enemies which devour them, and keep their numbers within certain limits: the enemy increasing in proportion to the food that he finds. Thus the Hessian Fly is destroyed by a minute insect called the *Cerophron destructor* by Say; and trees are often disencumbered of plant lice by the inroads of the *Surphus*, or the *Hemerobius*. It may be further remarked that *larva*, when ready to enter the *pupa* state, often disappear suddenly; but if this was the case with the slugs, there must be several generations in a season. T.

The Curculio.

In a late number of the Farmers' Register, there are two articles on the Curculio, copied from the New England Farmer, and written by Joel Burnett, which are particularly deserving of attention. He considers this insect as the only obstacle in the way of raising plums; and lays down four propositions which we copy for the purpose of comment:

"1st. I have found that the Curculio is on the trees, ready for its operations, very early, even before the plums are large enough for it to deposit its eggs in them."

This information may be turned to good account, by destroying the insect before it commences operations; and this may easily be done as soon as they are found on the tree. Spread two large sheets under the tree, (we had a pair made for this purpose)—jar the tree by the stroke of a mallet and most of them will drop on the sheets, and lie still for some seconds, pretending to be dead. Their dark color contrasts with the whiteness of the sheets, so that they are discovered at a glance, and easily secured. In this manner several years ago, we destroyed about three hundred in the course of an hour. As a stimulus to timely operation, we should remember that they are as easily killed before the mischief is done, as afterwards.

These particulars were communicated in the second volume of the Genesee Farmer; but it may be well to repeat that shaking the tree with our hands will only bring down a *part* of these insects. The small number that we caught in this way, induced us to believe there were very few on the trees, until we saw that much of the fruit was punctured; and it was this that led us to suspect that our work had not been thoroughly done. We therefore spread the sheets under the tree, and made the following experiment:—On *shaking it well* we caught FIVE curculioes; on *jarring it with the hand*, we got TWELVE more; and on *striking the tree with a stone*, EIGHT more were dropped on the sheets. We then revised our work, and found we had been operating to great disadvantage.

"2d. It continues its labors into August.—The same curculio that stings the plum and peach, I have found repeatedly operating on the apple."

Dr. Tilton, who first made us acquainted, by his publications, with the manners of the curculio,—was of the same opinion; but we are inclined to doubt its correctness. In the year 1831, Noyes Darling, late

Mayor of the city of New-Haven, stated in the New-York Farmer, that the worm which infests the apple, becomes a moth or miller. We immediately repeated his experiment, by putting these worms with part of the apple, amongst moist earth in a tumbler, and covering them with a piece of window glass. In due time the *perfect* insect came forth, very different indeed from the curculio. The result was published at the time.

"3d. It gets on the tree by flying, though it may crawl up the body at times."

We believe they more generally get up by crawling. Dr. Tilton says "two trees of the same kind may stand in the nearest possible neighborhood, not to touch each other, the one have its fruit destroyed by the curculio, and the other be uninjured, merely from contingent circumstances, which prevent the insects from crawling up the one, while they are uninterrupted from climbing the other." We have also been told by a neighbor who had tied by the upper end, a large bundle of unbroken flax round the tree, three or four feet from the ground, while the lower parts of the stem hung loose,—that it saved his plums. Yet we have seen the curculio fly away from the sheets on which they had fallen, when suffered to remain undisturbed.

What follows, whatever may be its bearing on this mooted point, should be extensively known. As this little animal is easily annoyed, trees standing before a store, or shop, or any frequented place, usually more or less escape injury. I have known trees standing near a hog pen, mature their fruit year after year, while others standing four rods distant, as surely failed.

"4th. It stings the fruit mostly in the night."

This fact is new to us; but such a habit would well agree with the timid nature of the insect.

We make another extract:

"The plum tree is subject to a disease on the limbs, a kind of excrescence or warty appearance, which Dr. Harris says is caused by this same curculio, puncturing the bark and depositing its eggs under it."

We hope this is not a fair specimen of Dr. Harris's labors in Entomology. The absurdity of the charge is evident, from the fact that the curculio infested the plum trees in this part of the State more than thirty years before any such excrescence disfigured their branches.

We cordially approve, however, of what follows:

"Dr. Harris recommends cutting out and extirpating these excrescences, and *burning them before the last of June.*"

Hints for the Month.

This is a most important month to the farmer. On the proper direction of his work at this time, his success for the season greatly depends. Every thing should be conducted with energy, and every thing well finished. All the ploughing should be thoroughly performed, and planting done in the best manner. Slighting work, is the most costly operation the farmer can perform.

It is of vital importance, during this busy season, that horses and cattle be well fed, and kept in good condition, to accomplish properly the work assigned them. Animals constantly supplied with water, working or otherwise; regularly fed; regularly worked; and their wants always attended to,—will keep fat on a far less quantity of food, than when they are occasionally neglected, and suffered to pass their usual time of feeding, or overdriven, or deprived of water.

Those who own small farms, where land is high priced, will find the practice of soiling for domestic animals, a matter of economy. Loudon says, "A field of meadow in good heart, mown and eaten green, will, at a rough estimate, produce treble the quantity of milk it would have done if pastured, and four times as much as it would do in the form of dry hay." The value of the *manure* made this way, would overbalance the cost of cutting the grass.

Let no manure remain in the barn-yard after the present time. If not done already, direct all your force to accomplish it now. The large crops of corn which are sometimes raised in this country, are greatly indebted for their success to very copious manuring. We have, it is true, a very fertile soil, but corn can scarcely be overfed with manure; every load tells.

Corn may be planted too early; but to one error of this kind, there are a hundred by planting it too late. The precise time of course must vary in different regions. The first expansion of the oak leaf, is an old and very good rule.

Straight rows—these are the thing. How much more thoroughly and evenly the crop might be cultivated, if this were always attended to. When rows are crooked, one hill is run over, and another neglected, and the hoeing rendered laborious. But where they are straight, the cultivator passes evenly and safely, within an inch of each hill, and little is left for the hoe.

But the crows—who has not had a fine crop greatly injured by these black rogues? The remedy by tarring, we have never known to fail, when well performed. When slighted, it of course fails. The best way, by far, is to pour hot water on the corn to heat it, pouring it off again in a few seconds, and then put on the tar and stir it thoroughly. Every grain thus becomes coated with a fine and even glazing of tar. Roll the corn in air slacked lime, and it is ready for planting. A pint of tar will do for a peck of corn, though perhaps more would be safer.

Make large preparations for root crops—for mangel wurtzel and sugar beets, ruta bagas and carrots. The best variety of the sugar beet, the Silesia, is to be preferred to the mangel wurtzel. It is most admirably adapted to the feeding of cows, and is good for hogs. The farmer should calculate on at least one hundred bushels for every milch cow,—to be fed during winter—the richness and excellence of the milk and butter thus produced, and the greatly increased quantity, will soon decide any doubt of the advantage of this root. Failure is commonly owing in the first place to poor soil, and in the second to neglect of weeds.—The ground should be as rich and mellow as a garden, and the seeds will vegetate; and the weeds should be kept down at the outset, and the growth of the plants will not be checked. Seven or eight hundred bushels to the acre may be expected if these things are strictly observed.

Many days of labor in cutting weeds, may generally be saved in the culture of all root crops, by a previous fallowing for a month or two, to destroy all the weeds, and rendering the soil finely pulverized for planting and hoeing. By a little labor in this way,—cutting the weeds with a cultivator and one horse as they first appear, for a few times, in the early part of summer, and thus almost superseding the necessity of hoeing, we have raised the white globe turnip at the rate of 750 bushels to the acre, *at a cost of about two cents a bushel.*

Ruta bagas are especially valuable for the winter feeding of horses, oxen, and young cattle. Let every farmer appropriate a portion of land now, for the culture of a crop,—manure it well, and keep it stirred to kill the weeds. Many suppose they necessarily require a sandy soil; but if very rich, and not *wet*, they will succeed about as well on a clayey as on a sandy loam. The only disadvantage of the former is, the cloddy surface is apt to afford a shelter for the turnip fly, hence crops on such soils are more frequently cut off by this insect; but this doubtless might be prevented by rolling the surface after sowing. If the farmer has no drilling machine, he may sow the ruta bags broadcast; this, though not so good, is successful.—We have seen a broadcast crop of 1200 bushels to the acre. Manure was the secret.

Different Soils.

Last month we spoke of the importance of a *fine soil*, of *shade*, and of a regular supply of *moisture* for delicate seeds; but another view of the subject may be taken. Among the myriads of plants that embellish our globe, varying in form, in substance, and in color, great constitutional differences exist. Some, like the sea-weed, only vegetate in brine; others, like the wild rice of the west, flourish most in fresh water.—The truffle always remains under ground, while the mistletoe only germinates aloft on trees, and seems to feed on air.

But between the thousands that spread their roots through the earth, and their leaves to the light depending on timely showers for their nourishment, great differences exist in regard to *soil*. The yellow bloom of the *Hypoxis*, is only seen on close *clays*; the perennial *Lupin* confines itself to beds of *sand;* and the locality of the *Talinum* in Pennsylvania is on naked *magnesian* rocks. *Lime* is essential to the chief objects of the farmer's culture; and a species of *Veronica* from its attachment to this mineral, is called in Virginia, the "Marl Indicator."

Besides the *mineral* constituents, however, there are *vegetable* principles derived from the decay of particular plants, which become a part of the soil, and give it a peculiar character. We may separate the *sand* from the *clay*, and both from the *lime* and *magnesia* or iron—weigh the vegetable matter, and then attempt to make a similar soil of new material in the proper proportion; but unless we have the recrements of similar plants, it cannot successfully be done.—We have seen no artificial soil that would suit the rose-flowering locust; and the heaths only grow in peaty earth, or something analogous. The decaying leaves of the sour pine, so pernicious to the cereal grasses, is a rich manure for the red sorrel.

Among the great numbers of ornamental plants which are collected from so many points of the earth's surface, it is not reasonable to expect that land of the same quality can accommodate them *in the best manner*. Some will flourish in their new abode; others will vegetate for a time, while a third class will speedily dwindle and perish. Various soils, therefore, differing in both their *mineral* and *vegetable* composition, are necessary in extensive gardens. Small spots of two or three feet diameter, in many cases will be sufficient. Some ANNUAL flowers will doubtless require them as well as shrubs and herbaceous perennials; and the greater the variety of soils, the greater will be the chance of success. On a small bed of sand carried more than twenty miles, we have *Pinus rigida* and *Magnolia glauca*, growing in luxuriance; though every attempt to cultivate them in our common soil, had failed. Many beautiful plants require peat from the marshes; and a small cask of the right soil, would impart health and vigor to the Kalmias and Rhododendrons.

The Flowers of Spring.

(IN A LETTER OF THE 25TH. ULT.)

In cool weather, the snow-drop and other early flowers, continue long in bloom; but a few warm days dismiss them, and call forth others in more rapid succession.

The Persian Iris, so beautiful, perfumes the garden for a time, and the Mezereon—the first shrub that blossoms in spring—adds its fragrance. Its acrid fruit, however, causes some to reject it; but that might speedily be stripped from its branches, and children might be taught to keep their fingers to them-

selves, (a useful lesson in later life.) Then such an acquisition would be enjoyed.

The bloom of early flowers, however, may be much prolonged by planting in different situations. Give them the reflected heat of a wall or close fence, and protect them at night from the frost, and a week or more may be gained in earliness. Plant them on the opposite side of such a wall or fence, so that they are shaded through most of the day, and they will come forth a week or two later than those in the open border. To see the first flower of its kind, does us good, and we love to prolong the stay.

The genus *Corydalis*, like *Eschscholtzia*, is remarkable for the delicacy of its leaves. *C. cucullaria* and *C. canadensis*, (the latter fragrant,) are natives of our woods. *C. cava* and *C. nobilis* are from Siberia. All these add to the beauty of the border.

Erythronium dens-canis is a native of Europe, and decidedly prettier than either of the species indigenous to this region. There are two varieties, white, and red-purple. The flower is soon past, but there is beauty in the leaf.

The primrose or polyanthus *(Primula veris)* runs into many varieties. We have selected a dozen or more of the finest we could procure or originate, and some of them are very pretty. Deep red-purple, pale lilac, yellow, and almost white, are among the colors. The double varieties are highly valued.

Narcissus is an interesting genus of more than sixty species. It includes the Daffodils: the single yellow, the double yellow Ajax, and the double phœnix with white petals and orange centre. The Trumpet major, in two varieties, however, is our earliest kind. It also includes the Jonquil with two or three rich yellow flowers on a stem. *N. angustifolius*, white with a crimson-tipped nectary, and *N. floribundis*, also white with a yellow nectary, are fine. The latter from Spain, requires some protection, and is scarcely suited with our common soil.

The English Violet, *(Viola oderata,)* white, blue, and double, is very modest and very sweet. It has received many encomiums from the poets.

Hyacinths are a lovely group of plants; and come nearer to being of all colors than any other flower that we know. It should be planted in a rich soil, that its bunches of blossoms may be large and fine; and when set out late in autumn, the earth should be firmly pressed down over it, to prevent the frost from heaving up the soil, and separating the stem from the bulb.

Of all the flowers of this month, however, we doubt if any makes a finer display than the liver-wort (*Hepatica triloba.*) It only opens in the warmer part of the day. From the woods, we have procured them of many colors, and with a considerable approach towards a duplication of the petals; but so far have found none that could be called double. *Sanguinaria canadensis*, also from the woods, with pure white blossoms, should be associated with them.

The Crown Imperial is a magnificent plant, admirable for its form and singularity. The double varieties, however, are mere distortions, and not worth cultivating.

When *Viola tricolor* has passed the winter without damage, (and snow is its best protector,) it blooms very early. Many of the new varieties are very showy and very pretty.

One more, and we have done. The periwinkle, *(Vinca minor,)* an evergreen trailer, begins to open its fine blue flowers. †

Clearing New Lands--Inquiry.

Messrs. Editors—I am about to remove on to a new farm, and if you, or your correspondents, will give some hints respecting the best method of clearing and cultivating new lands, you will confer a great favor on A SUBSCRIBER.

Henderson, Jefferson co., April, 1840.

The Meeting at Rochester.

In another column will be found a call for a public meeting of farmers and friends of Agriculture, to be held at Rochester on the 28th inst. We believe it is not necessary to remind our readers of the importance of this meeting, in order to induce them to attend.—But we wish to remind them of the necessity of being there promptly at the hour, and having their minds somewhat prepared to speak and act understandingly on the subjects which will be discussed. We do not mean by this, that they should be prepared to make long speeches; for time will not admit of it. The meeting is for the transaction of important *business*, which will need to be done "*with accuracy and despatch*;" and therefore it is necessary that every farmer who attends, should be prepared to do his part.

The following are some of the leading topics which will probably be dicussed, and the questions which will need to be decided:—

1st. A consideration of the present condition of agriculture, and the farming interests in this region of country; and 2d. what are the best means of their advancement? This will give rise to the question, 3d. Shall an Agricultural Society be formed? and if so, 4th. What shall be its name and character, and plan of operation? What extent of country shall it embrace? (This will depend upon the attendance from adjoining counties.) 5th. Is it advisable to have a Fair, or Exhibition, next fall? if so, shall premiums be awarded? and how shall the funds be raised? These, and questions growing out of these, will most likely occupy the whole attention of the meeting.

Acknowledgments.

We are indebted to the Hon. T. Kempshall, M. C. for several interesting documents, and a package of seeds, kindly sent us by him from Washington.

Also to Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, Commissioner of the Patent Office, for a package of seeds of West India Plants, just received from him. We shall immediately sow them in a hot-bed, and transfer them to the Green House.

A Donation for the Museum.

Professor C. Dewey, of this city, has presented us with a collection of dried specimens of grasses, which we shall add to and arrange during the summer, for the proposed Agricultural Museum. Our readers are indebted to his able pen for several interesting communications which have appeared in our columns, and for the essay on *Grasses*, part of which appears in this number.

To Readers and Correspondents.

Several communications which need revising are unavoidably deferred for the present; and a pressure of business must be our apology for the omission of some cuts, and other matters intended for this month.

From the Kalamazoo Gazette.

Beet Sugar in Michigan.

New Genesee Farmer.—The first three numbers of this new agricultural sheet is now upon our table. We think it is fully equal to the old Genesee Farmer, and will prove an invaluable work to the agriculturist. It is nearly as large as the "Cultivator" and costs only half as much; and we think will be more valuable to *our* farming community.

In answer to the "*Farmer's*" inquiry, in reference to the manufacturing sugar from the beet, in this State, we would say, what we have heretofore stated, that the company established for that purpose in the adjoining county of St. Joseph, did not meet with success the last season, on account of the incapacity of their workman. They have now sent an agent to France to secure an experienced workman to take charge of the business. If they succeed in getting a competent workman, as they undoubtedly will, we presume success will attend their efforts this season, as they succeeded so far last as to make molasses.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

THE GRASSES.--No. 1.

In common language, the *grasses* include all those herbaceous vegetables, which are used, or may be used, as food for our domesticated animals. Turnips, peas, and the like, would be considered as excepted. In the anguage of botanists, the grasses embrace those plants with *hollow* and *jointed* stems, with solid joints, with long, parallel-veined leaves, rising from slit sheaths, and with one or two, or more, chaff-like leaves, or glumes about the flower. While this description excludes the *rush-like* and *sedgy* grasses, some of which are eaten by cattle, it comprehends the most important vegetables; for it includes wheat, rye, barley, oats, sugar-cane, rice, wild rice, Indian corn, &c., as well as timothy, red-top, and all the common grasses. It excludes indeed, clover, pea, buckwheat, and the like; but it evidently embraces the most important articles of agriculture.

In the views now to be presented to the farmer, the grasses used for food for our animals, alone are respected. Those which are intentionally cultivated are very few; but several others are mixed with these in more or less abundance, and some of them are worthy of more attention than they have yet received, and others may be soon introduced.

Vast provision has been made in the multitude of grasses, for the support of the graminivorous races of animals. More than *eighteen hundred* species have been described by botanists; more than *three hundred* are ascribed to North America; and more than *one hundred and twenty* are found in the State of New-York. While these are useful for the food of cattle to some extent, is it not probable that far more will ultimately be found valuable to the agriculturist?

The value of the cultivated grasses for our working animals, as well as for those that graze only, is inestimable. They cannot be sustained on wheat, rye, oats, corn, and the like, but must have more volume put into their stomachs. Whether it is that grain has a nourishment too concentrated to be used alone, or that the stomach of the graminivorous is adapted, by its *capacity*, for the use of the leaves and culms themselves, which is the most probable, and that this *capacity* must be filled up by the food, it is very clear that they must have a coarser food with the finer, for their support. Hence comes the advantage of even the *innutritious cut-straw* of wheat, or rye, or oats, mixed up with their grained provender. There must be volume, as well as nutriment, in the food of our animals, and especially of those which are to do the hard work for us. For pasturage, as well as hay, the grasses have an immense value.

In the selection of grasses for cultivation, the object to be effected is the first thing to be considered, and the adaptation to this object is the first business of practical agriculture. For the early pasturage of spring, or the late feed of autumn, we need the grasses most appropriate to those parts of the year, as well as for the hay of summer. One grass may be more nutritious in the early stage of its growth, and another in the later, while some are better fitted to be food for horses, and others for cattle and sheep.

The quantity of nutriment in the different grasses, is probably very different, and is not very easily ascertained. The experiments made under the order of the Duke of Bedford, at Woburn, England, and often

referred to as the *Woburn results*, or *experiments*, have thrown the most light upon the subject. They are not indeed perfectly satisfactory, as the laboratory of the stomach may find better and more useful combinations of matter in a vegetable, than can be *found* in the *laboratory of the chemist*. Still, they may be of great service now, and lead to other and more determinate results. The farmer who *is intelligent and nice in his observations*, will be led to very certain and definite conclusions on the relative value of the different grasses, by watching, for sufficient periods of time, the condition of his animals, as they are supported upon different kinds of food. If attention is paid to the season and soils, to the relative ages and vigor of the animals, and to the quantity of labor performed by the working animals, and of butter, cheese, beef, &c.. by those that are not workers, and accurate records are kept of all those for comparison, it will scarcely be possible that fifty of the best farmers in a county, pursuing a similar course, can come to different conclusions. Soon, at least, other observations will make the necessary corrections; and the relative value of the grasses will be ascertained. It was shown by Sir Humphrey Davy, in his important work on Agricultural Chemistry, that vegetables contain five substances, on which their power of nutrition *may* depend, viz: *saccharine, mucilaginous, bitter extract, alluminous*, and *saline*, matter. The first of these is well known to be highly nutritious, and the second and fourth are probably little less valuable. It is probable, indeed, that more or less of the vegetable fibre itself is converted into nutriment in the process of digestion.

To aid the farmer in coming to the most valuable conclusions, and to guide him in experiments for improvement in agriculture, it may be advantageous to contemplate the properties and history of the more important grasses, with reference to their relative value already ascertained.

1. *Timothy Grass*, or Herd's Grass, as it is often called, Phleum *pratense* of botanists, and *Cats-tail grass* of the English, is too well known to need description. It is said to be common over the fields of Europe. It took one of its names from *Timothy* Hanson, who carried the seed from New-York to Carolina in 1780, and another from its value as food for *herds* of animals, and another name from the *form* of its spike or long head of flowers. The botanists gave to it the *Greek* name of an unknown ancient plant.—According to the Woburn experiments, it is a very valuable grass, containing more nutriment when the seeds are mature, than any other grass in that state, and being in the proportion of 23 to 10, or more than twice as much. If it stands too long, however, it becomes too dry and hard to be relished by animals and forms poorer hay. If the season is not a wet one, it should be cut earlier for hay. The high relish of its hay by horses, if it is cut in the time of flowering is well known. In England it is considered an early grass for feeding, and yields much herbage, and will, after being fed upon, send up its culms and flower abundantly upon rich soils. If it is cut for hay too late, animals select only the finer and more delicate parts, and leave the rest. As a general fact, there is no doubt that it is *cut too late in the season* to make the best hay. The farmer has a deep interest in having his hay of the best quality. In the market it will give him a higher reward for his labor. When it can be depended on, the better quality ever brings the higher price. Waving over the fields, this grass presents a beautiful appearance.

There is one defect in this grass; *it springs up very slowly after it is mown*, and therefore the second crop is liable to be small. This is specially the case, if it is cut much after the time of flowering, and gives an additional reason for an early mowing. This fact, and some others, appear to have given Timothy grass much less estimation in England than in our country, though it is said to be rising in value there. Our climate may be more favorable to its growth; besides, a smaller variety seems generally to have been cultivated in England, which yields much less hay, and is inferior to the larger in the proportion of *twenty-five* to *eight*; a circumstance which shows the advantage of knowledge, and the necessity of care in the selection of seeds.

2. *Meadow Fox-tail Grass.* This is the true *Fox-tail*, Alopecurus *pratensis*, of botanists, and named, both by the common people and the botanists, from the resemblance of its head or spike of flowers to the shape of the *tail of the Fox*. It is more loose and bushy than that of Timothy grass. This is a favorite grass in England, and cultivated both for pasturage and hay, and is indigenous to Britain and other parts of Europe, from which it seems to have found its way into our country. I have not known it cultivated; but small patches of it are found frequently in the meadows of New-England and this State. It is said by the English to possess the "*three great requisites of quantity, quality, and earliness*, in a superior degree to any other. It is often fit for the scythe by the middle of May, (in England;) it flowers twice a year, and gives more bulk and weight of hay than any other grass."—*Loudon.*

These properties commend it to the attention of the agriculturist. The *second mowing* is said to give a *greater* yield than the first. The soil, in which the meadow Fox-tail luxuriates, is that of a *rich clayey loam*, which is so common in our section of country. The quantity and quality of this grass, on a *sandy soil*, is found each to be only two-thirds of that on the loam just mentioned.

It is highly recommended for pasturage, and in laying down pasturage, it is said, by *Sinclair*, that *one-eighth* of the seed should be of this Fox-tail grass. It is slow in coming to full perfection, so that a field of it should stand and be mowed or pastured for several years. Its permanence, nutriment, amount of produce, and early growth, give it, in the language of Sinclair, a *decided preference.*

Who has known of any adequate trial of this grass in our country, to test its excellence or adaptation to our soil and climate?

There is another Fox-tail grass, the Alopecurus *geniculatus*, of botanists, which is rather more common in the meadows than the preceding. It is *bent* at the *joints*, so that the stem continually changes its direction, and has a distinct sea-green color, even more so than that of Timothy grass. It likes a moist soil. In England it is considered a valuable grass for the produce of hay, as well as for pasturing. Because our well known Timothy grass is so excellent, the farmer should not be prevented from giving those grasses an experiment which shall decide on their importance in agriculture. Both should be cut for hay in early flowering. They seem to give the promise of more tender stalks, and more delicious hay. Certainly the English agriculturists give few grasses a superior commendation.

3. *Orchard Grass, Cock's-foot Grass*, the Dactylis *glomerata* of botanists. It is often found in the shady meadows of *orchards* and about barns. The botanists have named it from the growth of its heads of flowers somewhat like the *fingers and thumb*, and the English from the resemblance to the foot of the *barn-fowl*. It is a tall, large, and pretty coarse grass, with its flowers growing rather one sided. It yields a large amount of herbage towards the roots, and is reported to be very valuable in England for pasturage, and has indeed received the highest commendations Its seed might be easily gathered. In England it is fed upon immediately after the season for turnips has passed, as it is an early grass, and grows with much rapidity. To get the full benefit of the grass, it should be raised on a light soil, and should be kept fed down, as it is too hard and coarse for hay. It is self-sown in our meadows, but may be deserving of higher consideration as a grass for pasturage. It is certainly one of great bounty, as it waves its heads in the wind above the ordinary grasses of the meadow. It is found over much of Europe. From the Woburn experiments, the produce at flowering is about *one-twentieth* more than when in seed, and great at both times. But even for the early cropping of spring, it was found to be some inferior to that of Timothy grass. Still, it *grows so rapidly*, and is so readily eaten by sheep, horses, and cattle, that it is superior for cropping to most of the grasses, cultivated in England. The seed is now for sale over our country, and the grass is in the course of trial. It is hoped that the experiments will be made on a scale adequate to determine the advantages of the grass to the agriculturist.

(To be Continued.)

Mulberry Trees.

Whatever inconvenience or disaster may result to individuals from speculations in the mulberry, we apprehend that the nation will be benefitted by that excitement, to a much greater amount; and wherever these trees withstand the winter without damage, and the expenditures have not been too great, we think there is much to encourage the proprietors. We do not believe that land can be appropriated to a more profitable culture.

A gentleman, near Baltimore, who has a large stock of the multicaulis, says, in a note to us, "I expect to make two hundred pounds of silk next summer," and another, near Philadelphia, informs us that he intends to feed as many silk worms as he can find food for.—He has many thousands of the multicaulis standing out in the open field, uninjured by the late severe winter. "Indeed," he adds, "they look better than some which were put into the cellar last fall."

The climate of the Genesee country, however is not so well adapted to this tree, though we think it will do better here than many persons apprehend. Eager to increase it, we have planted it in the richest soils which have stimulated its growth till the frost struck it.—This was most strictly the case with a few which we raised from *cuttings;* while some which sprung from *old roots* in a thinner soil, were not damaged, and remain so, in the open ground. It is true that we bent them down after the deep snow fell, and threw some of it over them, keeping them down, out of harm's way, till the severest weather was past; yet it is well known that the multicaulis is much hardier when budded or grafted on the white mulberry; and perhaps it would be still more so if it stood on stocks of our native mulberry.

To those who intend to prepare for the culture of silk in this district, we would say, appropriate for it the poorest ground on the farm. Drain it thoroughly if nature has not done so, either under ground, or by ridging the surface, as the case may require. Give the multicaulis a fair trial on its own roots; and also on hardy stocks; but the introduction of some hardier variety would be prudent. T

The Silk Culture,

MESSRS. EDITORS—In expressing your views of the Silk business, in the 2d No. of your paper, you say that you think it to be one of the most important subjects which can at the present time engage the attention of the American people—that you think it is soon to form a new era in the prosperity of this nation, and that you have no doubt of its ultimate success. But, at the same time you say, that as not more than one

in a hundred of your readers are particularly engaged in the business, justice does not admit of your saying much on the subject.

Now, Messrs. Editors, I do not wish to criticise what you say, nor presume to lay down a rule for you to adopt in conducting your very valuable paper, for I shall be satisfied with it even if you say *nothing* on this subject. But, at the same time, if this business be of so much importance to the nation, it must be important to every individual; and therefore I cannot see any injustice in your saying *much* on the subject. A great deal must be said before the community will became properly awake to this subject. Every farmer, and every man who has an acre of land should manifest some interest in the culture of silk, and should, more or less, engage in the business. But before this can be done there is much of ignorance to be removed, and prejudice to be overcome. Many people, perhaps the majority, have got an impression that it is all a "speculation," or "humbug," because some individuals have been engaged in raising and selling morus multicaulis trees at high prices, and made unreasonable profits; therefore the whole silk business has been ridiculed, as a visionary speculation unworthy of confidence. Now, gentlemen, I have no morus multicaulis trees for sale, but wish to purchase, therefore my motives need not be suspected on that ground.—But I am firmly convinced, and the more I consider the subject the stronger is my conviction, that this business is soon to become second to none in this country, cotton not excepted. I think so, because I see nothing to prevent it; but much to encourage it. To me it seems impossible that this nation should long consent to pay to foreign countries *twenty millions of dollars* annually, for silk, when it can be raised at a much cheaper rate at home. The business has been fairly tested and proved, that silk can be raised in the United States of a superior quality, and at a cheaper rate than in any of the now greatest silk growing countries. It has farther been proved that persons of a small capital and small farms, can receive a ten fold greater income than by any other process of farming. Now, Messrs. Editors, if this be case, is it not right for you to press the truth upon the minds of your readers? If this is a business which interests them all, ought they not to have the subject frequently laid before them? But I did not design a long article upon the subject. You will please excuse me for conflicting with your view of the thing. My excuse is, my ardent attachment to the silk-growing interest. But no more of it. Permit me to express my high estimation of your very valuable paper; and as you give all, the weak as well as the strong, an invitation to become its correspondents, I think you may hereafter occasionally receive my mite as a contribution to its pages. Yours, &c., K.

Le Roy, April, 1840.

Remarks.—We fully coincide with K. in relation to the importance of the silk business; but we think he misunderstood, or at least has given rather a distorted view of our remarks on this subject, to which he alludes. We think that what we then said, and what we have since published, is as much as the warmest friends of the cause could reasonably ask; and as much as justice to the mass of our readers would admit. We shall continue to publish such articles, and such only, on the silk culture, as we deem best calculated to *awaken interest*, and *remove prejudice* on the subject; but until a larger proportion of our readers are engaged in the business, we cannot occupy our pages with the detail of practical silk culture, especially when there are papers exclusively devoted to this subject.—*Eds. N. G. Far.*

With strength and counsel joined, think nothing hard.

In making innovations the utility should be clear.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

The Silk Culture.

Messrs. Editors—As you seem disposed to publish some articles on the subject of the silk business, I will put in a mite, which you will dispose of as you may think advisable. The articles you have published in former numbers on the subject, especially Mr. McLean's, are very interesting, but they do not apply particularly to the Genesee country, and my object in this communication is to endeavor to arouse the agriculturists in this region to a sense of the fact, that they are not located in a part of the country where it is useless to attempt to make silk. Yet I must acknowledge that the State of New-York is far behind many of her sister States in this business. But I hope that it shall not be said much longer that the Empire State is in the back ground in relation to so important a branch of agricultural and manufacturing pursuit.

I have for several years past been making silk in a small way, for the purpose of gaining a knowledge of the proper course to pursue, whenever I should think it advisable to enlarge the business. I commenced without any knowledge on the subject, except what I had gained by reading some publications. My wife never saw a silk worm until she raised them, and never saw a skein of silk reeled until she did it herself; and had no other than the common reel and spinning wheel; yet the first she ever made was pronounced by good judges, of superior quality; and every step we have taken in the business seems to strip it of the great mystery that is thought by many so much to envelope it, and render it vain to attempt it in this country. The raising of worms is as simple as raising chickens, and the entire management of them, and reeling the silk, is no more a mystery than the management of sheep and spinning their wool. Yet a great portion of our people remain ignorant in this particular, so much so, that I am often asked, "How do you keep your worms through the winter?—how can you spin the silk, &c.?" and there still may be some who read your paper, very ignorant on this subject, but who are well informed on almost every thing else. To such I would say, Wake up!—be not so drowsy over a subject of such vast importance. I would here just remark that worms are not kept through the winter, but hatched from eggs when the proper time arrives for feeding them; and as to the spinning of silk we have nothing to do—the worms do that part of the business—it is past the art of man to do it. The worms must spin it or we have no silk; and they not only spin but wind it into balls; and our first business with it, is to reel it from the balls; and here is no mystery. What woman would not suppose you thought her a novice indeed if you were to tell her she could not reel a ball of yarn?

I will not occupy more room on this topic. I would gladly impart to any one that will take the trouble to call on me, any knowledge I possess in relation to the management of worms or silk; and also to the propogation of the mulberry, in which I have had some experience. Perhaps some will now begin to think that I am in the multicaulis speculation, and wish to sell a few trees. Not so. I have no more than I want for my own use. The multicaulis speculation, although some may have lost money in it, will prove a very great benefit to the country, filling it with a very valuable tree to much greater extent than would have been done, had they not for a time commanded a very high price.

And now in conclusion, I would say to every farmer in the Genesee country, do not let the present season pass without each one having a few mulberry trees planted. Improve the present depressed price of the multicaulis for making a beginning. You probably never will procure them cheaper. The white Italian mulberry is not to be despised. This is the tree that I have used for feeding worms, but shall hereafter use multicaulis in connection. Let every farmer, I say, set a few trees, obtain a few eggs, and make a little beginning. Make your own sewing silk, if nothing more. If you have children ten years old, they can gather the leaves and feed the worms. Every farmer might make $50 to $150 worth of silk, and hardly know that he had been to any expense. The inquiry may be made, "Where shall we find market for silk if we make it?" Never fear on that subject. Let the farmer make the silk, and a market will soon be found near at hand. If it were known that there was silk enough raised in the county of Monroe to establish a factory, we should not be long without; and you need not be troubled about your silk rotting on your hands, if we should not have such a market for a year or two. As I have said, make your own sewing silk, even if it is for your common coarse work; it is cheaper than you can make from flax, and if you have an overplus which you cannot dispose of to advantage, weave it into cloth, either all silk, or mixed with cotton or wool. There is no more difficulty in weaving silk than cotton. It will readily be perceived, that if farmers make a beginning in this way, they would be prepared when a market opens to take advantage of supplying it immdiately, while those that have not so done will be left in the back ground, and will have to lament when they see their neighbors selling their hundreds and perhaps thousands of dollars worth of silk yearly, that they had not been as wise. But after all perhaps the inquiry may be made whether there is any assurance that there will be any profit in making silk for market; and in answer I would say, that actual experiments made by many individuals the last season, have shewn, even at the lowest estimates, that the amount of clear profit per acre far exceeds that of any other crop.

If I should perceive that our farmers are making any movement preparatory to making silk, I may give a few hints in relation to the management of the worms, &c. in a future number.

A. GOODELL.

Perrinton, March 30, 1840.

Market for Cocoons.

Messrs. Editors—Can you tell me whether there will be any market for cocoons in Rochester or its vicinity next summer? I am one of that *fortunate* class who happen to have a good stock of morus multicaulis trees on hand, and as there does not appear to be quite as many buyers as sellers this season, I have concluded to plant mine, and amuse myself by feeding silk worms, provided I can dispose of the cocoons when produced. I know nothing about the business of reeling, twisting, &c., and do not want to undertake it.

It appears to me that if some person who has some knowledge of, and taste for the business, would procure one or two approved reels, and buy our cocoons, and reel and sell the silk, it might be made a very profitable business. If notice of a demand was given this spring, there would be an abundant supply of cocoons next fall; and much would thereby be done to encourage the commencement of silk culture in this vicinity. MONROE.

Green-House—Inquiry.

Messrs. Editors—Will you, through your useful paper, give your readers a plan for building, and the necessary information for managing, a Green-House on a small and economical plan? If you do, you will much oblige at least one SUBSCRIBER.

Greenville, O., March 13, 1840.

We have not time at present, but will do it soon.—*Eds.*

Farmer's Daughters--Female Influence and Education.

MR. EDITOR—I am truly grateful for the kind reception which my former communication received; and the regard which you manifest for your female readers, encourages me to offer a few more remarks for the benefit of Farmers' Daughters.—In order to excite them to effort, and induce them to aim at a higher standard of excellence, it is necessary to impress them with a more elevated idea of themselves, and remind them of the important influence which they must exert upon the community.

One of the greatest discoveries of modern times, is the truth of the position, that females are capable of high intellectual attainments, and that the good of community requires that they should have great mental culture as well as the other sex. The idea once generally prevailed, that female minds possessed so little energy, and their influence in the world was so small, that the education of daughters was a matter of comparatively little importance, and it was only necessary to give them a superficial education, more showy than substantial. Happily, however, this barbarian error is now exploded, and a host of living proofs can be found to demonstrate the fact, that with proper education, our sex are capable of acquiring every branch of human knowledge which can improve or adorn the mind; and men begin to see that it is necessary for the improvement of mankind, and demanded by the spirit of the age, that the intellectual standard of the female sex should be greatly elevated.

An eminent writer has said, "The females of America hold in their hands the destinies of this Republic; and on their influence depends the happiness and prosperity of the nation, as well as of every family." Another remarks that "Nature has given woman an influence over man more powerful, more perpetual than his over her. From birth to death he takes health and healing from her hands, under all the most touching circumstances; her bosom succors him in infancy, soothes him in manhood, supports him in sickness and in age. Such influence as this, beginning at the spring time of life, and acting in all its most trying moments, must improve or deteriorate man's character, must increase or diminish his happiness, according to the moral and intellecutal gradation of woman. *Thus upon her improvement in particular, depends human improvement in general.*"

I do not introduce these quotations for the sake of complimenting my sex, but because I believe that they contain important truths which ought to be impressed on the minds of all. If such is the power of female influence, what a mighty agent it can be made for the improvement of the world, and how important it is that this influence should be rightly exerted! Yet how generally has the subject been overlooked by the majority of writers! There are some, however, who have most ably and eloquently advocated this cause, and whose labors have done much for the improvement of our sex. The writings of MRS. SIGOURNEY, to mention no others, are exerting an influence upon the mothers and daughters of America, which entitles her to a nation's gratitude. While on this subject I cannot refrain from quoting a few remarks from her powerful appeal to the guardians of female education.

"Is it not important that the sex to whom nature has intrusted the moulding of the whole mass of mind in its first formation, should be acquainted with the structure and developments of mind?—that they who are to nurture the future rulers of a prosperous people, should be able to demonstrate from the broad annals of history, the value of just laws, and the duty of observation—the blessings which they inherit, and the danger of their abuse? Is it not requisite, that they on whose bosom the infant heart must be cherished, should be vigilant to watch its earliest pulsations of good or evil?—that they who are commissioned to light the lamp of the soul, should know how to feed it with pure oil?—that they in whose hands is the welfare of beings never to die, should be fitted to perform the work, and earn the plaudit of Heaven?

"That the vocation of females is to teach, has been laid down as a position which it is impossible to controvert. In seminaries, academies, and schools, they possess peculiar facilities for coming in contact with the unfolding and unformed mind. It is true, that only a small proportion are engaged in the departments of public and systematic instruction. Yet the hearing of recitations, and the routine of scholastic discipline, are but parts of education. It is in the domestic sphere, in her own native province, that woman is inevitably a teacher. There she modifies by her example, her dependents, her companions, every dweller under her own roof. Is not the infant in its cradle, her pupil? Does not her smile give the earliest lesson to its soul? Is not her prayer the first messenger for it in the court of Heaven? Does she not enshrine her own image in the sanctuary of the young child's mind, so firmly that no revulsion can displace, no idolatry can supplant it? Does she not guide the daughter, until placing her hand in that of her husband, she reaches that pedestal, from whence, in her turn, she imparts to others, the stamp and coloring which she has herself received? Might she not, even upon her sons, engrave what they shall take unchanged through all the temptations of time, to the bar of the last judgment? Does not the influence of woman rest upon every member of her household, like the dew upon the tender herb, or the sunbeam silently educating the young flower? or as the shower, and the sleepless stream, cheer and invigorate the proudest tree of the forest?

Admitting then, that whether she wills it or not, whether she even knows it or not, she is still a teacher—and perceiving that the mind in its most plastic state is yielded to her tutelage, it becomes a most momentous inquiry what she shall be qualified to tench.—Will she not of necessity impart what she most prizes, and best understands? Has she not power to impress her own lineaments on the next generation? If wisdom and utility have been the objects of her choice, society will surely reap the benefit. If folly and self-indulgence are her prevailing characteristics, posterity are in danger of inheriting the likeness. * * *

"Of what unspeakable importance then, is *her* education, who gives lessons before any other instructor—who preoccupies the unwritten page of being—who produces impressions which only death can obliterate—and mingles with the cradle-dream what shall be read in Eternity. Well may statesmen and philosophers debate how *she* may be best educated, who is to educate all mankind."

I am afraid, Mr. Editor, that you will think I have forgotten the hint which you gave me respecting your journal; but, Sir, I believe this subject is most intimately connected with the cause in which you are engaged. Improve the taste and elevate the minds of farmers' daughters, and you will soon remove one of the greatest difficulties in the way of agriculture and horticulture. The greatest obstacle to be overcome, I imagine, is the want of an active, enquiring mind among the mass of farmers. From want of early training and proper example, the minds of the majority have grown up in habits of thoughtlessness, or become blinded by ignorance or prejudice, so that you cannot arouse them to effort or convince them that improvement is desirable or possible. It is therefore to the younger portion of the community that you must look with the fullest hopes of success Let the rising generation of farmers be properly educated—let them have mothers and sisters who will early *teach them to think*—let their minds be so trained, that they will become *intellectual, thinking, reading farmers*, and there will be little difficulty in the way of improvements, or in reforming the evils which exist in our land.

But first of all it is necessary, as we have seen, that farmers, who constitute three fourths of the community, should give their daughters a better education.—By this I do not mean that all should have more schooling, although that is necessary with many, but that they should have such mental culture as will fit them to fill their stations in life with pleasure to themselves, & be a blessing to all around them. It is a most ruinous mistake for young persons to suppose that attending school for a few years is getting an education. A very important part of our education is obtained before we enter school, and much more after we have left.—The duty of the school teacher is only to unlock the gates of knowledge and direct us a few steps in the path where we may travel on, by our own efforts, and gather the flowers and fruits of wisdom with our own hands.

But I have already occupied too much space for this time, and will therefore close with a promise that in my next I will endeavor to show that there are some radical defects in the present system of educating farmer's daughters. Very Respectfully, &c.,

ANNETTE.

Maple Grove, 1840.

NATURE.

BY ROBERT C. WATERSTON.

I LOVE thee, Nature,—love thee well—
In sunny nook and twilight dell,
Where birds, and bees, and blossoms dwell,
And leaves and flowers;
And winds in low sweet voices tell
Of happy hours.

I love thy clear and running streams,
Which mildly flash with silver gleams,
Or darkly lie, like shadow dreams,
To bless the sight;
While every wave with beauty teems,
And smiles delight.

I love thy forest deep and lone,
Where twilight shades are ever thrown,
And murmuring winds with solemn tone,
Go slowly by,
Sending a peal like ocean moan,
Along the sky.

I love to watch at close of day,
The heavens in splendor melt away,
From radiant gold to silver gray,
As sinks the sun:
While stars upon their trackless way,
Come one by one.

I love, I know not which the best,
The little wood-bird in its nest,
The wave that mirrors in its breast,
The landscape true,
Or the sweet flower by winds caressed,
And bathed in dew.

They all are to my bosom dear,
They all God's messengers appear—
Preludes to songs that angels hear—
Mute prophecies—
Faint types of a resplendant sphere
Beyond the skies!

THE MORNING OF SPRING.

Once more the genial sun appears,
His bright beams glance from hill and stream,
And all a chastened radiance wears
Where winter in his path has been.
I love to see the first sweet smile
That lightens up the joyous wood—
It hath a spell that can beguile
The spirit of its solitude.
And oh! to feel the southern breeze
Fan from the brow the flush of care,
To list the music in the trees,
Which its warm breath is waking there,
Hath more to cheer the spirit's gloom,
To check the all unbidden sigh,
Than all the pride of summer's bloom,
Or radiance of its golden sky.

A mystery is the human heart,
A mystery are its secret tones,
That waken only to the touch
Of NATURE'S magic hand alone;
And then a thrill of kindred feeling
Bursts o'er the soul with rapture's spell,
And sorrow flies its rich revealing,
Yet whence it is we cannot tell,
But this we know, that lone and sad,
We feel it—and our hearts are glad.

White Pigeon Republican.

Victoria regalis.

Dr. Robert Schomburgh, a German naturalist, travelling on account of the Royal Geographical Society, and patronized by the English Government,—has discovered in British Guiana, a plant, * so different from all others that are known, and so magnificent, as to savor strongly of the marvellous. He has furnished the following account:—

"It was on the first day of January [1839] while contending with the difficulties nature opposed to our progress up the River Berbice, that we arrived at a point where the river expanded, and formed a current-less basin,—some object on the southern extremity of this basin, attracted my attention. It was impossible to form any idea what it could be; and animating the crew to increase the rate of their paddling, shortly afterwards we were opposite the object which had raised my curiosity. A vegetable wonder!—all calamities were forgotten—I felt as a Botanist, and felt myself rewarded. A gigantic leaf, from five to six feet in diameter, salver-shaped, with a broad rim of a light green above, and a vivid crimson below, resting upon the water. Quite in character with the wonderful leaf, war the alternate tints, from pure white to rose and pink. The smooth water was covered with them, and I rowed from one to the other, and observed always something new to admire. The leaf on its surface is a bright green, in form almost obiculate.—Around the whole margin extended a rim from three to five inches high! on the *inside*, light green, like the surface of the leaf: on the *outside*, like the leaf's lower part, of a bright crimson."

A colored engraving of it is copied into the (London) Florticultural Magazine, and the editor gives this additional information:—

"The stem of the flower is an inch thick near the calyx, and studded with elastic prickles. The calyx is four leaved; each [leaf] upwards of seven inches in length, and three inches in breadth. The diameter of the calyx is from twelve to twenty-three—on it rests the magnificent flower. When it first opens, it is white, with pink in the middle, which spreads over the whole flower the more it advances in age, and it is generally found the next day of a pink color. It would appear that the higher this gentleman advanced up the river, the more gigantic they became; and he says they measured a leaf which was six feet five inches in diameter, its rim five and a half inches high, and the flower fifteen inches across."

It is said the Loddiges of Hackney have this most extraordinary plant already in their collection. †

* Named in honor of the British Queen.

Beet Sugar Experiment.

A farmer from Genesse county, whose name we have mislaid, gave us a verbal account of a small experiment which he tried the past season, in making sugar from beets.

He took two barrels full (about 5 bushels) of yellow and white sugar beets to a cider mill, and ground them, and pressed out of them a barrel of juice. This he boiled down in the same manner as for maple sugar, and it yielded twenty pounds of good sugar. A little milk and the white of an egg was put into the syrup to clarify it; but the sugar was of a dark color, and evidently requires some other process to purify it.—He is convinced that beet sugar can be made with profit by common farmers, without any other apparatus than a common cider mill and press, and two kettles. He intends to try a larger quantity this year, and hopes to succeed in making a better quality of sugar.

If any of our correspondents can inform him of the proper manner for clarifying the sugar, it would be esteemed a favor.

Caking of the Bag, or Udder.

In newly calved cows, the udder sometimes hardens or cakes, (as it is called,) and a remedy should be applied without delay. One of my cows, in this condition, was lately treated with *soft soap*, externally applied in the evening, and the next morning she was well. I have heard no complaint of her since.

A FARMER.

Gold Vine Peas.

This name was given to a small variety of field Peas in Canada, which it was certified would not *mildew*. A quantity of them were imported last spring, and sold at the Rochester Seed Store, and we believe We have not learned that any of them were injured by mildew. In one or two instances they were sown rather late in the season; and, in order to test them, some common peas were sown by their side; the result was, the gold vine peas produced a good crop, while the common were not worth harvesting. It is certain, that they are a very good field Pea; and those who wish to sow them can obtain imported seed at the Rochester Seed Store.

Chopping Hay.

The following is a statement of BENJAMIN HALE, proprietor of a line of stages running between Boston and Newburyport. It is a correct statement of the saving made by the use of Straw Cutters in preparing the food for his horses.

"The whole amount of hay purchased from April 1, to Oct. 1, 1836, (six months,) and used at the stage stable, was — *Tons* 32, *cwt.* 4, *qrs.* 0, *lbs.* 00

At $25 per ton, (the lowest price at which hay was purchased in 1816,)..... $800 01

From Oct. 1, 1816, to April 1, 1817, whole amount of hay and straw purchased for, and consumed by the same number of horses, viz:

	T.	*cwt.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Cost.*
Straw	11	13	3	10	$160 22
Hay	13	14	1	00	$350 00
					$510 23

Deduct on hand, April 1, 1817, by estimation, four tons more than there was Oct. 1, 1816, at $25 per ton, $100 00 — $410 23

Saving by the use of Straw Cutter, four months of the last six months, or the difference in expense in feeding with cut fodder and that which is uncut — 389 77

Whole amount of hay used for the horses of the Salem stage, twenty-five in number, from April 1, to Oct. 1, 1816, viz: — *Tons.* 22, *cwt.* 0, *qrs.* 0, *lbs.* 0

At thirty dollars per ton, (the lowest price in Salem,) — $660 00

Whole amount consumed by the same number of horses, from Oct. 1, 1816, to April 1, 1817,

	T.	*cwt.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*	*Cost.*
Straw	15	13	0	0	$187 80
Hay	2	15	0	0	$ 81 00

— 268 80

Saving in using chopped fodder five months,..... — 391 20

Total saving in using the Straw cutter nine months, viz: at Newburyport, four months, — 389 77

At Salem, five months,..... — 391 20

Total,..... — $780 97

To Preserve Fence Posts, &c.

It is often the case where lime is used for plastering and other purposes, the siftings and refuse are thrown away as useless. But it is better economy to put it around fence and gate posts, as it will greatly preserve them from decay. Leached ashes are very good for the same purpose If slacked lime or leached ashes were sprinkled over the wooden pavements in our cities when first put down, it would render them much more durable than when sand or gravel alone is used.

S. S.

Women Milking.

Thirty years ago it would have been almost as difficult to find a man milking as to find a woman mowing, excepting in cases of very large dairies. In this respect matters are greatly changed: and any hope, for aught we see, of getting back to the old practice, would be vain. Half of the young girls, now-a-days, hardly know, at least they would pretend that it would be immodest and not at all lady-like to be presumed t know, whether the milk comes from the udder or tho horns. "The rosy milk-maid," the title of a soe which we remember to have heard when a boy, 'ean animal not known in modern natural history; and a to a young lady with thick shoes, a checkered apron, her sleeves turned up, and a handkerchief tied over her head, though the apron should be as clean and the handkerchief as white as snow, and never so pretty a pair of black eyes and ruddy cheeks peeping from under it, it would be an idea too shocking for one of our modern exquisites even to dream of; and if presented to her abruptly, while looking in the glass, in her *mouslin de laines*, with her satin shoes, her gilt hair comb, her paste earings, and her insect waist, as crooked as the limb of a scrub oak, she would probably not recover from the fright for a week.

We say we have no hope of recovering the good old habits of former days. Revolutions never go back.—Yet in this respect we have lost a great deal. Men are seldom neat enough in their habits to be trusted with milking. They have not patience to wash their hands or to wash the udder before milking. They are not gentle, and often abuse the animal by their kicks and thumps. They are in a hurry in the morning to get through a business which they dislike; and they come home tired at night; the cows are unnecessarily milked at an unseasonable hour; and the business is very often badly performed. Women, on the other hand, are more patient, more gentle; more neat; and we were about to say—they ought to do the milking. The morning air would be bracing to their muscles, (if the modern girls have any muscles, for there begins to be a reasonable doubt in this matter;) and the odor of the cow has been long known to be, and is of n recommended by physicians as medicinal. But we will not say what we were disposed to say, because it would be useless. It is utterly vain to attempt a contest with fashion; for according to Franklin's proverb, "he that spits against the wind spits in his own face." We must, however, be just: and in riding through Dedham last week at the close of the day, it was quite refreshing to see in at least four cow yards, woman in her appropriate sphere; and by her pleasant looks and gentle conduct as she sat at the side of the bountiful cow, evincing her gratitude to Providence for the richest of all the benefactors which Heaven has given to man in the form of a quadruped. —*N. E. Farmer.*

How long will sheep live buried in snow?—We are informed by Mr. Perham, of Athens, that during the late snow storm two of his sheep were buried beneath a drift near the barn, and remained in that situation nine days and ten nights. They were missed at the expiration of the tenth day, and found by accident, some of the cattle having travelled over the drift, and by stamping, made a breach in the snow bank, by which the animals were discovered.—One of them, on being released, immediately went into the yard, and commenced eating, as though nothing had happened —the other was a little dumpish, and did not so readily realize the value of liberty.—*Bellows' Falls Gaz.*

Weight of Snow.—It has been demonstrated in Baltimore that a cubic foot of snow well saturated with water, will weigh 30½ pounds—and that there was at one time [22d of December] on one of the large churches in that city, fifty-five tons of snow, the depth being ten inches, computing it at only 16 lbs. to the cubic foot. People are not generally aware of the danger of having buildings crushed with large bodies of snow upon them.

How many young ladies are there who would be mortified to the last degree if a frill or a collar, or other parts of their dress were misplaced, but who, on being detected in ignorance even in the history of their own country, would own it without a blush?

What will you have?—As a person once agreed to produce the weather that might be unanimously proposed by the audience, so we agree to furnish the kind of reading which may be decided upon by a general convention of readers. In the mean time, we shall continue to vibrate, as we have done, over a field of variety, and thereby come in contact with the favorable tastes of many. Reader—do not condemn that paragraph which finds no favor in thine eyes; but pass it over to him for whom it is prepared:—you must not monopolize. It requires some genius to read a paper scientifically, as well as to make one.—*N. Y. Sun.*

☞ A FATHER wishes ANNETTE would give his daughters some hints on Industry and Economy, during these hard times.

Razors, Shaving, and Improving Cutting Instruments.

There are but few farmers who are not more or less interested in the operation of cutting the beard. This, we hope, will be a sufficient apology for introducing an abstract of a communication, which appeared some time ago in the Farmers' Register, from the pen of Dr. Robert R. Harden; believing that some of the positions advanced deserve further investigation. The fact that a warm razor cuts better than a cold one, is commonly known; and the reason is supposed to be the same as that a hot knife cuts butter more easily than a cold one. It is also a very common opinion among mechanics that an *old* tool cuts better than a newly made one. But the improvement of the temper by magnetizing is entirely new to us. If such is the case, may it not be owing to the improved tenacity of the edge?

Dr. Harden says that the loadstone improves a razor to an astonishing degree, and that therefore the first step towards taking off the beard easily, is to magnetize the edge. With regard to its shaving more easy when dipped in hot water, he says, "It cannot be from its *softening* effect on the beard; for after the beard has been well lathered with soap and warm water, it is hardly presumable that the heat of the razor would soften it much more. Besides, the razor will not shave so well if it is *too hot;* to shave easy, it must be dipped in hot water, and then *getting cool* before it is applied to the face. Two reasons should be given; first, because when the razor is used cold, the temper is so high and the edge so fine, or thin, that it will fly and become full of little gaps; whereas by dipping it in warm water, the heat gives it a little toughness, and takes away that extreme brittleness which makes it break. Shave with a razor that is hot and one that is cold, and examine them with a powerful microscope, and the difference will be very plain. * * In dissecting out large tumors, and other surgical operations, where very sharp knives are required, I have always kept the knives in a bowl of hot water, and changed them as they became cool."

Dr. Harden relates a number of interesting experiments, rather accidental, showing how the temper of steel is improved by *age*. He says newly tempered steel is always defective—that it is the common belief among surgeons, that old London instruments were better made than they were in this country; "that they are better is certain; but it is age that has improved them." He relates, among others, the following occurrences:—"More than 25 years ago, I had a set of dissecting knives, made by Brown, of Philadelphia.—He was directed to make them as good as they could be made, and to charge double price for them. They were found, upon trial, to be good for nothing, were thrown aside, and after remaining for many years neglected, I had the rust cleaned off and sharpened.—They are now as good as the best I ever used. About twenty years ago, I had a couching needle made of a singular form, by a blacksmith. The operation of couching for blindness requires a well tempered instrument; the point must be perfect. After having it several times tempered over, I found it impossible to bring it to a perfect point It was thrown aside as useless; not less than half a dozen times I sent to the north and had new needles made, directing two or three prices to be offered for them, so that they might be made of the best kind; none of them were as good as I wished them to be. As I frequently practice this operation on dead eyes, as well as on brute's eyes, to save my new instruments, this old needle was cleaned of rust and sharpened again; and upon trial, it was found to be the best instrument I have." * * * "It may be laid down as a fact, that a newly made razor ill seldom shave well, and that the older the better. Time or age, has an effect on the edge of a razor, that no art can produce. * * Therefore, when we buy a new razor, (for this new razor may have been made years,) we should select a sharp one, for we my never get as good an edge on it again; this edge should be saved as long as possible, never putting it on a strap while it will do without. By only strapping it on a clean silk handkerchief, or the palm of the hand, if the razor is a good one, it will keep its edge a long time."

The communication contains minute directions for sharpening razors after they have lost their edge. The hone must of course be good; a very fine oil stone is said to be best, and castor oil better than olive oil.—We are told that a good razor can never be well sharpened while cold, from brittleness; that it should be dipped in boiling water, and laid on the hone with little more than its own weight, and instead of having a rough, broken, and irregular wire edge, it will have a fine, uniform wire edge. To attempt to strap this off, breaks it irregularly, and sticks the strap full of fragments which spoil it; rubbing it across the thumb nail, breaks it off in some places, and turns it up and makes it worse in others. *Time* is the only remedy. Therefore after honing it, wipe it perfectly dry, not ouching the edge with any thing, and above all things not touching it by a strap; and put it away. After remaining at least three months, the longer the better, strap it some time on a stretched silk handkerchief, then on the palm of the hand. This should be done *cold*. "Now dip it in boiling hot water, and apply it to the smooth side of one of Mechis' magic straps, lathering the face, and dipping the razor in hot water as usual; and the beard may be mowed off, not only so easily that it cannot be felt, but the razor will shave so perfectly easy and smooth, that it will shave the beard *lower than the surface of the skin*. It is absolutely necessary to dip the razor in boiling water while strapping as while honing it." There are a number of theoretical, or rather hypothetical remarks, which we omit.

Should any think we have devoted too much time to this subject, we can only say, that the aggregate time which many farmers spend in shaving their faces during life, is about one entire year; and that the amount of time consumed annually at this business by all the farmers of the State of New-York, cannot be less than one thousand years, or three hundred thousand dollars worth of time. This we hope is some apology.

From the Farmers' Cabinet.

Farm Accounts, and Farm Profits.

MR. EDITOR—I was much pleased with the communication in your last number, from A. E. T., of Philadelphia county; and I am glad that an article so plain, interesting, and calculated to place the profits of agriculture in a fair light, is to be followed up, as I infer from the heading of the article, which is No. 1.—Now, I do hope that this writer, who, it appears, can hold the pen as well as the plough, will continue his essays for the benefit of his brother farmers. There are many subjects of great interest to the farmer, that have as yet received little or no attention from agricultural writers. The subject of *Farm Accounts* is one of great importance, and I trust that A. E. T. will furnish us with a "bird's eye view" of his system, which I presume is a good one.

The system or practice of farming with us in Montgomery county, is not essentially different from that in the more immediate neighborhood of Philadelphia—but our great error has consisted in not farming *well* enough; we have been too anxious to have *large* farms, even if partially cultivated, in preference to *small* ones in a high state of fertility. The desire to obtain many acres, has been the ruin of hundreds, and was the rock on which I was nearly shipwrecked.—Some years since, when money was cheap and every thing saleable dear, I was induced to believe that my farm of ninety-five acres was too small. True, I had lived above board, was entirely free of debt, and had abundance of employment; but still my farm was small, very small, indeed almost insignificant in comparison with some of my neighbors. Instead of being contented with what I had, and by still greater attention causing it to produce more abundantly than it had previously, the spirit of grasping after more, ambition, speculation, or whatever you may please to call it, took full possession of my mind—of course my days of tranquility were ended.

About this time it so happened that an adjoining neighbor had become a victim to the spirit of emigration, and having settled on locating in the west, offered his farm for sale. He had been revolving in his mind the propriety of this step for several years, and as it worked upon him, his farm became more and more neglected, until, in some measure, he lost the character of a clean farmer. The buildings on the place were so old and decayed, that they were considered of no value. The farm consisted of two hundred and twenty-eight acres, subject to a mortgage of six thousand dollars, at six per cent., payable half yearly. This was no obstacle in my mind, "as the mortgage may remain for years." The day of sale came, and I was the fortunate purchaser; it being knocked down at eight thousand one hundred and twenty dollars, subject to the aforesaid mortgage. My farm of ninety-five acres, had, in the nine years that I tilled it poorly, yielded me about two hundred dollars profit per annum—so I had about eighteen hundred dollars at command, but was compelled to *borrow*, a thing I never did before, about four hundred dollars.

I had now attained apparently the summit of my wishes—I was now a large landed proprietor! At first, I little thought of the collar on my neck, in the shape of a mortgage, and sundry small obligations shortly to be met. I enjoyed myself finely indeed, but only for a short time, as the "bubble burst," and I awoke to the cold and sober realities of my situation. True, I was a large proprietor, but that did not give sleep to my eyelids. My six months' interest came round, and was paid after many days' vexation. My coming crops, which fortunately were pretty fair, enabled me to keep along for that time, to support my family and pay off the four hundred dollars; but it took all, and when that was gone I was in a deplorable condition. A large plantation, mostly in a bad state of cultivation, with poor fences, going rapidly to decay—the soil requiring a liberal application of enriching manures to give it life, and no money to purchase it, or to pay for sufficient help. But I resolved not to be discouraged, and though, by going into debt for various articles where I had credit, I was compelled to pay an enlarged price, yet I pushed on, resolved to do my best to weather the storm, and improve the purchase, at least in appearance, such as fences, &c. But instead of cultivating but a part, I very foolishly—as I fear is the case with too many of my brother farmers who occupy too much land—undertook to cultivate the whole—the consequence was that my crops were generally light, especially on the new purchase, and not so good, by odds, on the homestead. I saw my error, and determined, if possible, to retrieve it.—By perseverance I was enabled to continue and make both ends meet, but as to laying up a dollar, I did not and could not, and I had almost become reconciled to my toilsome and care-worn life, when I was started on a new track.

In 1836 a young man, a stranger, who was soliciting subscriptions for an agricultural paper, called at my house about evening. I bid him stop for the night, which he did. In the course of the evening, our conversation—confined as it was to agriculture—turned upon my embarrassments. Why, said he, it is the easiest thing in the world for you not only to slip the collar, but to do it to some purpose. I inquired how; he replied, *sell enough not only to pay your mortgage, but to enable you to lay in a noble stock of manure, and devote the same cost, labor, and attention on what you have left as you did on the whole, and I will guarantee you success.* But I can't sell—I have tried the neighbors for years, to no effect. But that is not the way—*advertise*, yes, *advertise very extensively*, not only in your country papers, but in those of the city, and the surrounding country; make your farm known every where. Sell off the first chance. He read me several articles about the profits of small farms well managed—of the great improvements in agriculture, &c.

In the morning I subscribed for his paper. He went his way, and I turned my attention to the duties of my farm. But his advice made so great an impression on my mind, that I could not rest until I had made the effort to sell in the manner he proposed. I accordingly encountered the expense; and one of the advertisements fortunately brought me a purchaser, *cash in hand*, who took two hundred acres at forty-

three dollars per acre, or eight thousand six hundred dollars; so I had a trifle left, besides twenty-eight acres of wood land. I was at once released from my trouble—but the gain—much as it may seem to some, can never recompense me for the intense suffering of mind which for years I had endured.

I promised my wife and children that if ever I got well out of that speculation, that they would never find me engaging in another: and I will preserve my word inviolate. I immediately set about arranging for future operations. I was liberal in the application of manures to my old place—my fences were all put in excellent order—outhouses repaired, and all about or around the dwelling neatly whitewashed—better accommodations were made for cattle, &c., and now the old homestead not only looks as pleasant as ever, but is the abode of real contentment and rural enjoyment.

But this is not all—reading my agricultural works has stimulated me to keep pace with the improvements—and what is a mystery to some of my neighbors is, that *now*, on the old "*ninety-five*," as they call it, I raise more saleable or disposeable produce than I ever did, with the addition of the large farm. This is a fact. But is easily explained; the three hundred acres were partially cultivated—the homestead is now in the highest state of fertility, and I have, from the free use of lime, been under the necessity of contracting for an additional barn on the premises. Before I purchased the addition, I laid by about two hundred dollars a year, but when I cultivated the whole I could scarcely make both ends meet. Now I am, thank Providence, doing better than ever. "I am doing well, and intend to let well enough alone," and not be led away by a spirit of emigration, the mulberry mania, or the making of beet sugar. I shun these things as I would a pestilence, but shall content myself with raising the sugar beet for my stock, which is increasing, satisfied that nothing is better calculated for them, or more advantageous for the farmer—the stock farmer especially.

Now I am going ahead without keeping accounts, save certain memorandum books. I feel the want of a correct system, and I hope that your correspondent, "A. E. T.," or some person competent to the task, will furnish, through the Cabinet, the information desired; for I consider it almost as important for the farmer to have a correct system of accounts, as it is for the merchant or mechanic. J***** J****.

From the American Farmer.

The Preservation and Use of Roots.

On this subject our readers could be referred to no better authority than Mr. Barney, the emigrant grazier. His experience is as extensive as his judgment is sound—His name kindles up agreeable associations in our mind—He was among our chief counsellors and friends in getting up the American Farmer more than twenty years since, when it was a matter of doubt whether we could get interesting materials or adequate patronage, for a weekly paper, devoted exclusively to Agriculture and Horticulture. A reference to the pages of the first volume will show that Mr. Barney cast much light on the untrodden path, and enabled us to publish many things calculated to awaken attention to what had been, and what still might be, done to improve the common practice in matters of agriculture, and that very interesting branch of it, rearing, grazing, and fattening domestic animals.

His testimony in favor of root culture as subsidiary to rearing of cattle and sheep, and preparing them for the market will go far to augment the disposition in every quarter to extend the culture of roots, as evinced by our correspondence. We anticipate more improvement in this branch of American Husbandry within the next few years than in any other, and feel convinced that no judicious husbandman, having once enjoyed the benefit of a good supply of roots for his cattle and sheep for the winter, will ever after forego its advantages. But to the extract from Mr. Barney's letter.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb 24, 1840.

J. S. Skinner, Esq.

DEAR SIR—I was truly pleased to find that you had taken up your old task, and become the Farmer's and Grazier's guide. I have not forgotten the good gone-by times in which you and I held consultation respecting commencing the good work of the first volume of the American Farmer. Well do I remember the hospitality received at your mansion house, in company with your good lady and two little sons; and although I have now advanced to between three score years and ten, gratitude speaks louder than words.—One little article which you published in the first volume of the American Farmer, and I have no doubt you were the author of it, and wrote it down with your own pen, I horded up in my mind and put in practice, and it has been a source of profit in my calling to this day; and I have thought the least I could do was *ever to continue a subscriber to this useful publication*—I have thus far done so, *and paid up all my arrearages*, and at this needful time I send you a little of the needful, $5, in payment for this present and the next volume of the Spirit of the Agricultural Journals of the day, with the request, you will in future direct my paper to Port Penn Post Office, Delaware.

I commenced last year to improve a large tract of marsh land on the river Delaware, about three miles below my former residence, and if spared a little longer, intend spending most of my time there. I want to give you a few hints on my success in raising and manner of preserving and feeding the good Roots, the sugar beet in particular, mangle wurtzel and ruta baga. I succeeded in raising a large quantity last season of all the three kinds, and fed them to a large number of cattle, sheep and horses; they are inculculably valuable to all kinds of stock, judiciously fed. I use them as follows:—*Cut hay of the very best kind, oats* in the *sheaf*, the roots chopped *fine*, a small quantity of *Indian meal* and *oats* ground, two-thirds oats, and one-third Indian meal or bran, a small proportion of pure water just to make it moist I preserved them in a large stone wall cellar, commencing as follows:—Provided a number of cart loads of sandy lime, placed it so as to be handy, placing my beets three tiers thick against the wall all round the cellar, between every stack of beets a little of the lime sand, and so on as high as a man could pack them, the middle of the cellar left for the turnips. I have been taking them out ever since the middle of December, from five to six bushels per day, and expect so to do till grass takes their place; as my *ewe sheep* begin to lamb, I expect my roots will allow me to increase the number of bushels per day. In warm weather I open my cellar doors and windows, but am careful in having them closed in cold frosty nights. In this manner I have preserved my roots for several years, and I feel persuaded it is worthy of patronizing. I wish you much success in your useful calling.

Yours. most truly,
JOHN BARNEY.

On Stripping Cows.

WINTER PRODUCT OF A DEVON COW.

Every milk-maid has been cautioned that the last milk yielded by the cow, at any one milking, is richer than that which is first obtained—but this is not the only consideration which shows the importance of thorough milking. The more there is left in the udder, the less will the cow give at subsequent times, and the sooner will she 'go dry.' After once going through the cow pen, the milk woman, or man, for in New-England the men milk the cows, ought to be compelled to go round again and completely *strip* each cow.

The importance of this will be better understood if there be truth in the statement which we have lately read, apparently on good authority. We confess we were not prepared to believe that the difference was so great as there stated, between the first and last portion of the one milking. The statement is that—

Several large coffee cups, having been successively filled from one cow, till she was quite dry, the following results appeared, great care having been taken to *weigh* the cups when filled, to ascertain that they held exactly the same quantity.

In every case the quantity of cream was found to increase, in proportion as the process of milking advanced. In different cows the proportion varied, but in the great number the excess of cream in the last cup, as compared with the first, was as *sixteen to one!* In some it was not so considerable, therefore as an average it may be called as ten or twelve to one.

The difference in quality of the two sorts of cream was no less striking: the cream given by the first drawn milk, was thin, white and without consistence, while that furnished by the last, was thick, buttery, and of a rich color.

In the Philadelphia Farmers' Cabinet, we have the

WINTER PRODUCE OF A DEVON COW.

Abraham P. Holdrich, of Spencestown, had an accurate memorandum kept of the butter made from a Devonshire cow, which calved last autumn. The result was, that from the tenth December to the 10th January, including both days, there was made from her milk 56 lbs. of well worked butter, nearly equal to two pounds a day. The cow was fed with roots, hay, and buckwheat bran. Estimating it at 25 cts. a pound, the butter made in the depth of winter was worth $14, and we consider this the average product of eight months in the year, the aggregate amount for that period would be $112.

This shows the importance of keeping a good breed, and of keeping it well—Like cultivating rich land instead of poor—it takes no more labor to milk and take care of a good cow than a bad one.—*Am. Far.*

Rearing Calves on Milk and Meal.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In the last number of the Cultivator you published some remarks of mine on the mode of feeding calves by Mr. Hearsey, by giving skimmed milk with some meal, &c.

Mr. Hearsey says that it is necessary to explain the manner of mixing the meal—that if the raw meal is put into the milk it will scour the calf. He makes the meal into souppaan, heats the milk over steam to the state of its coming from the cow, and then mixes about one pound of the cold souppaan in the milk, and feeds the animal in this way three meals a day. His calves thus fed, at the end of the year are more than double the size of those calves that suck the cow.—He now makes 12 lbs. butter a week from two cows, and uses six quarts of milk daily from the same cows.

He adds a pint of boiling water to a pan of milk when set, holding six quarts, and the next day the cream will all be floating on the top, and skimmed off and churned. DAVID TOMLINSON.

Schenectada, March 10, 1840. [*Cultivator.*

Preserving Hams for Summer use.

MESSRS. GAYLORD & TUCKER—As the time is now come to put up hams to be kept for summer use, I will now state to you my mode. I believe we have tried all the methods in practice, and must prefer the one here described.

We take a dry cask or box, say an old flour barrel, put a good layer of coarse salt in the bottom, and then put down a ham; cover that with coarse salt, and put down another ham, and so on till the cask is full or the hams all deposited. Set the cask in a cool, dry place, and whenever a ham is wanted, take it out, and it will be every way as clean, clear from vermin and all other impurities, as when put down. This is attended with very little trouble or expense, as the salt is not at all injured for any other use in the fall. My cellar being a very dry one, we put the cask of hams in a cool place in that; but a damp cellar would be apt to dissolve the salt. The hams should be well dried before being put down.—[*Ib.* Yours,
CALVIN BUTLER.

Plymouth, Conn., March 14, 1840.

Successful Farming.

MESSRS. GAYLORD & TUCKER—I think I have been very successful in farming the last years, and will give you an account of the different crops I have raised and their product from 38 acres of limestone land. I do not mean to boast of raising more from an acre than other farmers, or of having raised any very superior crops; but on the contrary I am aware of having committed many errors in my system of farming, and am convinced that my crops last year ought to have been one fourth heavier, and that in future I shall increase the product from year to year above what I have raised last year.

4 acres of Barley,	180 bush.		
7 do	do	280	do
5 do	do	225	do

685 bushels at 70c.....	$479 50
4 acres I. Spring Wheat, 125 bush. at $1,10	137 12
5½ " of Rye, 244 bushels at 75 c.....	183 00
10 " of clear Timothy, 20 tons, $15....	300 00
2 " Lucerne and red clover, fed green for soiling, cut three times and valued	60 00
1½ acre in Potatoes and Cabbages, 105 bushpotatoes at 25c.....	26 25
700 heads of cabbages at 3c.....	22 50
Yours respectfully,	$1,208 37

FREDERICK SEITZ.

Easton, Pa.. March, 1840. [*Ib*

Employment.—Assure yourself that employment is one of the best remedies for the disappointments of life. Let even your calamities have the liberal effect of occupying you in some active virtue, so shall you in a manner remember others till you forget yourself.—*Pratt.*

It is a false and indolent humility, which makes people sit down and do nothing, because they will not believe that they are capable of doing much, for every body can do something. Every body can set a good example, be it to many or to few: every body can, in some degree, encourage virtue and religion, and discountenance vice and folly; every body has some one whom they can advise and instruct, or in some way help to guide through life.—*Miss Talbot.*

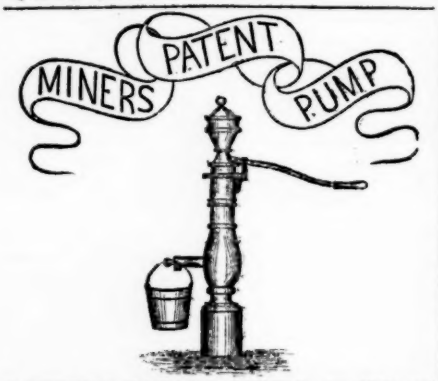
Western and Canada Money,—Agents in Canada, and the Western States, who cannot obtain bills of this or the Eastern States, may remit us bills of any specie paying banks. We have to lose a discount of from five to ten per cent. on them, but will offset this for their commission.

Lost Numbers.—Post-Masters will please inform us if any subscribers have not received their papers correctly, that we may send them again.

Rohans.—Anson Arnold, at Honeoye Falls, Monroe co. has a fine lot of Rohan Potatoes for sale, cheap.

Millet and Hemp Seed Wanted at the Rochester Seed Store.

Fresh Lucerne Seed, imported last fall, and its vitality tested this Spring, for sale at the Seed Store. Price, 37½ cents per pound.



MINER'S PATENT PUMPS, for Wells and Cisterns, improved. During the last few months the subscribers have made several important improvements in the construction of this pump, which renders it the cheapest and most durable article now in use, They have no hesitation in saying that they are decidedly preferable to any other article now in operation. Many testimonials of scientific and mechanical men might be given to show the simplicity and durability of the construction of this pump, and its superiority to all others, but as a personal examination might give a more correct idea of them, they invite all who may have occasion to purchase, to call before supplying themselves elsewhere.

They are now manufactured and sold wholesale and retail, at prices to correspond with the times, at the Warehouse of the Eagle Furnace, near the Falls, by

W. A. LANGWORTHY & Co.

Rochester, April 1.

SHADE TREES.

ONE Hundred European Linden Trees, 15 feet high, were received in fine order, by first boats from New-York.

These Trees are perfectly hardy, of rapid and certain growth, and beautiful form. The foliage is abundant, and of fine color; and every thing considered, they are admirably adapted to planting in streets, parks, and pleasure grounds.—Price, $1,25, to $1,50.—Orders should be left immediately at the Rochester Seed Store.

Rochester, May 1. M. B. BATEHAM.

EARLY POTATOES.

EARLY White Kidney, Early Manly, Early Frame, Mercer, Foxite, and several other choice varieties of potatoes, for sale at the Rochester Seed Store.—Price, 50 cts. per bushel. M. B. BATEHAM.

May 1.

IMPORTED ENGLISH DRAUGHT HORSE SAMSON,

WILL stand this season at the subscriber's stable in Palmyra, on the 1st, 2d, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th, of fifth month. At John Hoath's, in Pittsford, on the 4th and 18th of the same month. At Hall's corners, in Wheatland, on the 6th, 7th, 8th, 20th, 21st, and 22d, of the same month; and at George Marsh's, in Mendon, on the 9th and 23d of the same month.

Again at home on the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 23d, 24th, 25th, and 26th of 6th month. At Hoath's on the 1st, 15th, and 29th of the same month. At Hall's corners on the 3d, 4th, 5th, 17th, 18th, and 19th, of the same month; and at Marsh's on the 6th and 20th of the same month.

Again at Hall's corners on the 1st, 2d, and 3d, of 7th month; and at Marsh's on the 4th of the same month.

Samson was imported by his present owner, with a view to improve the breed of Agricultural and Draught horses in this country. His stock, of the two seasons he has stood here, promises to possess ample share of muscular power, so much needed in the various purposes to which horses are applied. They may be found in the neighborhood of Palmyra. Henrietta, Mendon, Wheatland, &c., and farmers are respectfully invited to call and see for themselves.

TERMS—$10 each mare, the season, to be secured by approved notes, payable on 1st of 11th month next. In case any mares should not be with foal, the owner may have the privilege of putting them next season, or if the horse should not stand in this part of the country, to have half the money returned. JOHN ROBINSON.

Palmyra, 1840.

THE IMPORTED HORSE, ALFRED.

WILL stand this season, commencing on the 6th of May, at the old Norton Farm, East Bloomfield, Ontario county, N. Y., as follows, viz:

From Wednesday, May 6th, to Tuesday, May 12th; from Wednesday, May 20th, to Tuesday, May 26th; from Wednesday, June 3d, to Tuesday, June 9th; from Wednesday, June 17th, to Tuesday, June 23; from Wednesday, July 1st. to Tuesday. July 7th; and at Mr. Forden's, near Geneva, the intermediate time.

☞ TERMS.—$10 each mare, for the season, to be secured by approved notes, payable on the 1st of December. Should any of the mares prove not to be with foal, the owners to have the privilege of putting them the next season, if the horse remains in this region, or, in the event of his removal, to have one half the amount returned.

THOMAS WEDDLE.

East Bloomfield, April, 1840.

AMERICAN COMET.

THIS full blooded improved Durham Short Horn Bull, is now at my farm, in the town of Greece, 6 miles from Rochester.

Pedigree.

Color, white, calved April, 1838, bred by Thomas Weddle, is by imported Rover, (1816;) dam, Primrose, by Pioneer, (1321;) gr. dam, Providence, by Candor, (107;) gr. gr. dam by Ketton, (346;) gr. gr. gr. dam by Expectation, (247;) gr. gr. gr. gr. dam by Col. Trotter's Magnum Bonum, (2882;) gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. dam by Lt. Chapman's Son of Punch, (122;) gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. dam by Ralph Grimson's Bull by Charger's son of Favorite, (282;) gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. dam by son of Dalton Duke, (188;) "Rover," or Charles, bred by the Earl of Carlisle, was by Rockingham, (2550;) dam, Cherry, by Wonderful, [700;] gr. dam by Alfred, [23;] gr. gr. dam by Chilton's old Red Bull, &c. &c.

TERMS.—$5 each cow.—Further information may be obtained by addressing me at the Post Office, Rochester.

THOMAS WEDDLE.

April 23, 1840.

IMPROVED BERKSHIRE PIGS.

THE Subscriber has on hand, and will have, during the Summer, Pure Berkshire Pigs—also a cross of the Leicester and Berkshire. These Pigs are equal to any in the State, and will be sold as cheap as any.

Rochester, May 1st, 1840. AMOS SAWYER.

TIMOTHY SEED WANTED.

A VERY high price will be paid for Timothy Seed, delivered immediately at the Rochester Seed Store.

May 1. M. B. BATEHAM.

SPLENDID DOUBLE DAHLIAS.

A SUPERB assortment, embracing over one hundred named varieties of Double Dahlia Roots, are just received, in fine order, and for sale at the Rochester Seed Store, at very low prices.

This magnificent and much admired flower is of easy culture, and with little care will flower in almost any garden.—The most proper soil is a deep, sandy loam. A place should be prepared for each root, by digging to the depth of 15 or 18 inches, and mixing in a shovelfull of decomposed manure.—The roots are kept in a cellar during the winter, and as the weather becomes warm in spring, they begin to sprout like potatoes. Plant in the open ground any time in May; water occasionally when the weather is dry; and when the shoots have attained the height of one or two feet, place a neat stake, four or five feet high to each plant, and tie the stems as they advance in growth, to prevent their being broken by the winds. They will commence flowering in August, and continue till destroyed by frost, when the roots should be taken up and placed on a shelf in a dry cellar.

A catalogue, describing colors, &c., may be seen at the Seed Store. Price of roots from 38 cents to $2 each. A liberal discount by the dozen. M. B. BATEHAM.

Rochester, May 1, 1840.

BERKSHIRE PIGS FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber, in consequence of returning to England, offers for sale the residue of his stock of Berkshire Pigs, at a price conformable to the times, viz: $10 per pair, when 8 weeks old, caged and delivered on board any vessels in New York, free of extra charges. Cash, in all cases, on delivery, and no communication replied to, unless *post paid.*—The Pigs delivered about the 1st. of May next.

BENJAMIN BRENTNALL.

English Neighborhood, Bergen County, New Jersey, 5 miles from New York, or at 79, Barclay-st, N. Y.

March 19, 1840.

SILK WORM EGGS.

A VERY large quantity of Silk Worm Eggs, of the Mammoth Sulphur, and other varieties, are for sale at the Seed Store, at reduced prices.

N. B. "Dennis' Silk Manual," Price 25 cents, also for sale.

April 1, 1840.

SILK WORM EGGS.

THE Subscriber has on hand a quantity of the Mammoth Sulphur variety of Silkworm Eggs, in fine order, which he will sell at reasonable prices. Residence, corner of High and Spring-streets.

THEODORE BACKUS.

Rochester, March 30, 1840.

GENUINE ROHAN POTATOES.

A FRESH supply, warranted genuine, received at the Seed Store—Price $1,50 per bushel—$4 per barrel. A remittance will ensure their being sent according to instructions; and if a large quantity is desired, a reduction will be made. M. B. BATEHAM.

DURHAM CATTLE.

THE subscriber offers for sale, at his stock farm, one mile east of the village of Alexander, Genesee County, thirteen one and two year old Bulls, ranging from five to seven eighths blooded, reared from his full blooded Durham importation of 1834, crossed with the Otto and Devonshire breeds. Terms moderate. t2

March 31, 1840. PETER A. REMSEN.

IMPROVED BERKSHIRE AND CHINA PIGS.

THE subscriber will have on hand for sale in the month of May next, and during the summer season, pigs of the above breeds, of perfect purity of blood and from the largest sized and best stock in the country.

A new imported Boar, direct from Berkshire county England, was added to the piggery last Fall and stock of his get will be ready for delivery from the first of July. This boar possesses all the requisite fine points of a good hog, and has great length for his age. He was descended from large parents, and said by his shipper to be totally unrelated to any thing yet sent out to America. His color is nearly black, and all other characteristics like the best of the old strain originally imported by Mr. Hawes. His stock is recommended for a fresh cross to those already possessing Berkshires. The subsriber has also of the get of Mr. Lossing's importation in the Fall of 1838.

Price, per pair, of Berkshires, caged and delivered on board steamboat, ... $20.00

Price, per pair, of Chinas, ... 15.00

All risk, after shipping, with the purchasers.

When something of a number are taken and it is desired, they will be delivered at Portsmouth on the Ohio river, or any intermediate point on the Ohio Canal, 10 to 12 weeks old, for $30 to $35 per pair, free of all other charge. Money must be remitted with the order for stock, or it will not be attended to. Those first remitting will take precedence in point of time. Bill at par at this place, or nearly so, will be expected. Address, *post paid,* A. B. ALLEN,

Feb. 1, 1840. Buffalo, Erie county, New-York.

AGENTS FOR THE ROCHESTER SEED STORE

A full assortment of seeds, put up at the Rochester Seed Store, may be found at each of the following places.—Subscriptions will also be received there for the "New Genesee Farmer and Gardener's Journal:"

Buffalo,	W. & G. Bryant.
Lockport,	S. R. Marks & Co.
New Fane,	J. P. Lukens.
Albion,	Rathbun & Clark.
Brockport,	George Allen.
Scotsville,	Andrus & Garbutt.
Le Roy,	Tompkins & Morgan.
Batavia,	J. V. D. Verplanck.
Attica,	R. & N. Wells,
Perry,	L. B. Parsons & Son.
Mount Morris,	R. Sleeper.
Geneseo,	F. & G. W. Wyman.
Canandaigua,	J. B Hayes,
Geneva,	J. N. Bogert.
Waterloo,	Abram Deuel,
Auburn,	T. M. Hunt.
Palmyra,	Hoyt & May.
Newark,	Doane & Partridge.
Syracuse,	T. B. Fitch & Co.
Utica,	J. E. Warner.
Oswego,	M. B. Edson.

M. B. BATEHAM

Rochester Seed-Store, March 1, 1840.

ROCHESTER PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED FOR

THE NEW GENESEE FARMER, MAY 2, 1840.

WHEAT,	per bushel,	$	87½a $
CORN,	"		44
OATS,	"	28	31
BARLEY,	"	38	44
RYE,	"	62½	
PEAS, Common,	"	50	75
BEANS, White,	"	75	
POTATOES,	"	20	25
APPLES, Desert,	"	75	1,00
" Dried,	"	1,00	1,25
CIDER,	barrel,	1,75	2,00
FLOUR, Superfine,	"	4,25	
" Fine,	"	3,75	
SALT,	"	2,00	
PORK, Mess,	"	14,00	14,50
" Prime,	"	10,50	11,00
" Hog,	100 lbs.	4,50	5,00
BEEF,	"	5,00	5,50
EGGS,	per dozen,	12½	15
BUTTER, Fresh,	per pound	12½	15
" Firkin,	"	12	
CHEESE,	"	6	8
LARD,	"	7	8
TALLOW,	"	10	
HIDES,	"	5	
SHEEP SKINS,	each,	50	63
WOOL,	pound,	38	50
PEARL ASHES,	100 lbs.	5,00	
POT,	"	4,50	
HAY,	ton,	9,00	10,00
GRASS SEED,	bushel,	1,50	2,00
CLOVER,	"	6,50	7,50
FLAX,	"	75	1,00
PLASTER, (in bbls.)	per ton,	6,00	
" bulk, (at Wheatland)		3,00	

Remarks.—There has been considerable improvement in business affairs in this city since our last. The spring's business has commenced quite briskly, and money circulates more freely than it has done for some months past. A good deal of wheat has been bought, at what may be called a fair price, all things considered. Large quantities of flour have been shipped for New-York, and the Banks seem to have more confidence in each other, and in business men.—Upon the whole, we think that farmers have little reason soon to expect higher prices or better times, than at present